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Arrest after arson feared at flats

People rescued in 'severe' fire

By George Welch

A MAN has been arrested on suspicion of arson after firefighters battled a 'severe' fire at a block of Didcot flats to rescue a trapped man.

At around 11.20pm on Friday fire crews from Didcot, Abingdon and Oxford saved a man who was stuck in the burning building in Harrier Drive, west Didcot.

The rescued man was treated for smoke inhalation at the scene by South Central Ambulance Service paramedics but did not go to hospital.

The fire service said the "swift and decisive action of the crews" helped them rescue the Didcot resident from the flat before leading a family to safety from a neighbouring flat.

Police say they have launched a

"thorough investigation" and are appealing for witnesses.

A 21-year-old man from Didcot has been arrested on suspicion of arson with intent to endanger life and has been bailed until April 13.

Incident commander, crew manager Andy Halstead said: "This was a severe fire and required immediate action, our fire crews were able to fight through the blaze and

rescue the missing resident and also to secure the safety of neighbours.

"Emergency responders from all three blue-light services combined to ensure a safe, swift and effective conclusion to this incident."

Fire crews have since re-visited the scene to offer home and fire safety advice to residents. Contact police on 101 if you have any information about the fire.



Fire crews rescue the endangered man
Picture: OFRS

People power brings change to plans for garden town

REVISED plans for Didcot's garden town will abandon proposals for a new technical college and flats on Ladygrove.

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Council leaders published their draft masterplan for their garden town vision in January, which included 17 per cent of Ladygrove being built on to provide new schools, health centres and other services, including a technology institute with homes.

But on Monday the councils revealed the technical college and flats are no longer part of the plan, and that publication of the final plans has been pushed back from March 22 until May as proposals are updated.

Thousands of residents, businesses and the wider Didcot community have had their say on the district councils' suggestions, and hundreds of people have protested at Ladygrove and at council meetings.

At a passionate town council extraordinary meeting at the town's Civic Hall last month, Didcot chiefs unanimously voted not to surrender the lease on Ladygrove Park.

And now, Didcot green-space lovers, including councillors and residents alike, have reason to be optimistic over the future of their town's green spaces.

Cllr Margaret Davies, who last month praised the community for a "brilliant campaign" in opposing the draft masterplan, welcomed the announcement.

• *Continues on page 3*

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Health trust first to be prosecuted by the watchdog

By George Welch

A CRISIS-HIT NHS trust that failed to properly investigate the deaths of more than 1,000 people in its care has become the first ever to be prosecuted by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) over safety.

The CQC said it is to prosecute the troubled Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust over "an alleged failure to provide safe care and treatment resulting in avoidable harm to a patient and other patients being exposed to a significant risk of avoidable harm".

The trust accepted responsibility in June last year for Connor Sparrowhawk's death after the 18-year-old drowned in a bath at Slade House in Headington, one of its Oxford facilities, in July 2013.

But this prosecution relates to an incident from December 2015 when an unnamed patient suffered serious injuries during a fall from a low roof at the trust's Melbury Lodge site in Hampshire, the CQC said. The case is expected to be heard later in the year by Basingstoke Magistrates' Court.

Southern Health is currently withdrawing all services from Oxfordshire.

The trust, which offers support to people with mental health challenges and learning difficulties, made the headlines repeatedly last year following investigations into the deaths of hundreds of people under their care between 2011 and 2015.

In November the CQC said Southern Health, which has been embroiled with leadership uncertainties, had made "a number of significant improvements" in identifying risks to patients following its September 2016 inspection.



• Connor Sparrowhawk



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Family man Harry to tackle the marathon

AN OXFORD man whose dream of a family was realised by adopting through Parents And Children Together (PACT) is running the London Marathon to raise funds for the charity.

Harry Routledge, 37, is one of seven runners who will be taking on the iconic 26.2 mile challenge on April 23 in aid of PACT.

Each runner is aiming to raise £1,500 for the charity, which supports families across the south east through adoption, therapeutic support and community projects.

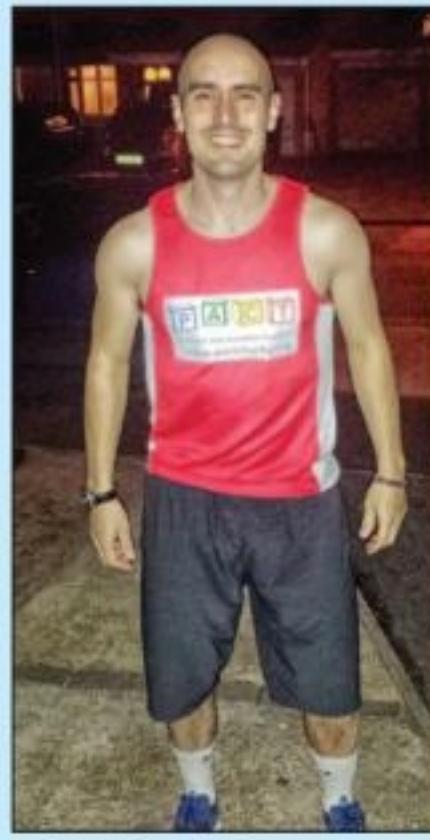
Harry, who with his wife Claire adopted three children through PACT, has already raised £1,490.

He said he has always wanted to run a marathon and was delighted to be able to put on his running shoes to raise funds and awareness for the charity.

Harry added: "Adoption is not easy for all concerned, but it's absolutely worth it."

"We have become the 'Fantastic 5' and owe a part of it to the support we received from PACT, as well as the fact that we would never have been introduced to our daughters and son if it had not been for this charitable organisation.

"To adopt a sibling group of three children is tough, even more so when they are all under four, particularly at once, but they deserved to stay together."



• Harry Routledge

"This is why my page, and tagline for life, has become 'Will it be easy? Nope. Worth it? Absolutely!'"

PACT chief executive Jan Fishwick said: "We are really grateful to Harry and all our Team PACT marathon runners who are giving up their time to train for the race and raise funds for our work."

Last year PACT placed 91 children with 58 families through its adoption services.

There are currently more than 2,000 children waiting to be adopted in England.

The charity said it is particularly looking for couples or single people, including those from the LGBT community, who can consider adopting.

Benefit cheat ordered to do community work

A DIDCOT woman has been ordered to carry out 100 hours unpaid work after pleading guilty to claiming thousands of pounds through benefit fraud.

Kyleigh Fisher, 31, of Castle Walk, appeared at Oxford Magistrates' Court on March 3 when she admitted two charges relating to her claims for housing benefit and council tax reduction.

Magistrates heard how Ms Fisher had failed to notify South Oxfordshire District Council that her partner had begun work.

As a result, between March 2014 and June 2016, she wrongly received more than £13,000 in benefits.

In that period she claimed £10,750.47 in housing benefit and £2,322 in council tax reduction.

Ms Fisher was also fined £200 and ordered to pay £185 costs.

Cllr Jane Murphy, SODC's cabinet member for finance, said "If someone on benefits experiences a change in circumstance they must notify us immediately."

"This is so we can check whether or not their entitlement has been affected."

"Benefits are there for those who genuinely need them and we will not hesitate to take action against anyone who we suspect is playing the system."

Drop in to rail upgrade meeting

RESIDENTS of Oxford are invited to a drop-in event to find out more about work at the town's railway station.

Network Rail are planning to replace the existing four sidings with five new ones including better train care facilities on the east side of the railway, just north of Oxford Station.

The vast majority of this work will take place during

the day, and residents will be informed in advance of any overnight work.

The event is on Tuesday at Jericho Community Centre, 33A Canal St, Oxford, OX2 6BQ from 5pm to 8pm.

More information at www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/our-routes/western/great-western-mainline/oxford/



• Residents protesting against the garden town in Didcot

People power pays off as plans for tech college are scrapped

Continued from front page

She said: "I am delighted that this daft idea to build on Ladygrove Park has been pulled by SODC."

"There has been a massive campaign by all of Didcot Town Council, many Didcot SODC councillors, and most of all by residents of the town who were opposed to this idea."

Campaigners welcomed the news as residents praised the "brilliant" and "fantastic" news on the 'Save Didcot's Amenities and Green Spaces on Ladygrove' Facebook page.

Cllr Bill Service, leader of Didcot Town Council, said: "I am grateful that the councils have listened to people's views, and I fully support the wider proposals for Didcot Garden Town."

"These innovative plans will put Didcot on the map as a place to visit, live and work for many decades to come."

But Cllr Davies still has concerns over the closing of Cow Lane Bridge to vehicles and the potential relocation of the rail station, which would be decades away.

She said: "Residents of Didcot have been quite distressed

by some of these proposals and now their worries continue until May when formal consultation will start.

"So far Didcot Garden Town has meant misery for many, not the constructive bid for government cash that it could have been."

Cllr John Cotton, leader of SODC, said: "I am delighted with the level of interest and debate the proposals for Didcot Garden Town has raised.

"Thousands of individuals and organisations have commented, many offering innovative ideas about what a garden town should include.

"We have listened to people's views and are amending the plans accordingly, to ensure our final plans reflect the needs and wishes of local people."

Cllr Matthew Barber, leader of the Vale, added that the garden town will boost residents all across southern Oxfordshire.

He said: "We'll see many new facilities, a vast increase in the amount of public open space, and it will also help to ensure we get the infrastructure needed to support the new homes in the area."

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Woman arrested after young boy's body discovered

By George Welch

A MURDER investigation has been launched after the body of a young boy was discovered in Faringdon.

Thames Valley Police officers are currently questioning a 40-year-old woman from Faringdon, who has been arrested on suspicion of murder and remains in police custody as we went to press.

The force was called to Bromsgrove Cottages at 1.20pm on Tuesday to find the child dead on arrival.

Police say the body is that of a young boy of primary school age but have not released further details of what happened.

Senior investigating officer, Det Insp Dave Hubbard of the Major Crime Unit, confirmed a murder investigation has been launched and the family have been informed.

LPA Commander for South and Vale of White Horse, Supt Rory Freeman, said: "This is a very shocking discovery and I am aware it may have a very direct impact on the community of Faringdon.

"In light of this incident



Police at the scene at Bromsgrove Cottages, Faringdon after the body was found on Tuesday. Picture: UKNIP

there will be an increased police presence in the area to provide reassurance and we would advise any members of the community affected by this incident to speak to one of the Neighbourhood Policing Team."

Police are appealing for witnesses and urging anybody with any information to contact the force on 101 quoting reference 730 (14/03).
Dozens of tributes have flooded in from residents of the town on the 'I live in the town of Faringdon' Facebook page.

Karen Draper wrote: "News like this is just devastating to a community and will have a resounding effect for a long

time to come.

"However, we should all be very proud of our community spirit. All of the well-wishers, people paying their respects and people taking food and drinks to the emergency services.

"We have many reasons to take great pride in our little town.

"I truly believe it is how you come through such tragic circumstances that is what counts. R.I.P little man."

Kathryn Culverwell added: "Saddened by the news that broke last night... rest in peace little one... thoughts are with the family, friends and all services involved."

News Bites

Drive-by theft

DIDCOT: A man was mugged of his bag containing a 'large amount' of cash, a passport and bank cards.

At around 8.15pm on Sunday a 20-year-old man was walking from Cockcroft Road on to Glebe Road when a dark blue car slowed down next to him.

A balaclava-clad passenger leant out of the window and tried to grab the victim's bag.

As he fell to the floor, the thief opened the car door, kicked him and snatched the bag.

The car sped off along Glebe Road in the direction of Newlands Road.

Police believe the offender to be a male.

The car is thought to be a 2002/2003 shape dark blue Ford Focus, with a registration plate beginning with E23 or E33.

The victim sustained cuts and bruises to his legs but did not require hospital treatment.

Grand gesture

DIDCOT: A donation of £1,000 to a youth charity will enable several vulnerable and disadvantaged young people to go on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the south of France.

The money, donated by Pryors Taxis, means the organisation TRAIN can pay for passports for people in their group who have never been abroad.

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MP 'disappointed' after vote against EU workers

By George Welch

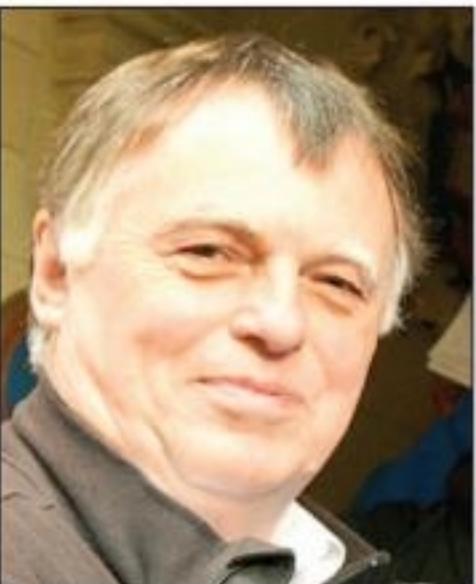
AN Oxfordshire MP has vowed to defend vital services and employment across the county after MPs voted against protecting the rights of EU nationals living in the UK and offering parliament the chance to veto Brexit negotiations.

The country's MPs voted against the proposed amendments by the House of Lords on Monday evening, paving the way for the Government to trigger Article 50 and begin the UK's process of leaving the EU.

Andrew Smith, the Labour MP for Oxford East, was the only Oxfordshire MP to vote against rejecting the amendment and described parliament's decisions as "disappointing" and vowed to protect Oxfordshire's businesses and services closely associated with the EU.

He told The Oxford Paper: "While I believe it is right to uphold the referendum outcome, it is important in so doing to safeguard the position of our health services, Mini plant and university research, which are very dependent on the commitment and freedom to travel of EU citizens.

"I shall keep up the pressure



• MP Andrew Smith

for recognition in the Brexit negotiations of the strong cultural and economic interest we have locally."

All other five Oxfordshire MPs – Nicola Blackwood (Oxford West and Abingdon), John Howell (Henley), Ed Vaizey (Wantage), Victoria Prentis (Banbury) and Robert Courts (Witney) – followed the Tory line and voted against the Lords amendments.

Oxford West and Abingdon Liberal Democrat candidate Layla Moran accused Ms Blackwood of 'betraying' hundreds of EU nationals who live in her constituency.

Ms Moran said: "This is a

betrayal of the hundreds of heads of all but three of the people from the EU in Oxford institution's colleges, the group West & Abingdon as well as their friends, colleagues and neighbours.

"The hundreds of local nurses and doctors from the EU are already worried about their futures here."

Ms Blackwood said: "While I voted and campaigned for Remain the outcome of this national referendum was clear, and to try to reverse the country's decision would be democratic poison.

"I will continue to stand up for the key issues important to Oxford and Abingdon as we go into negotiations."

Witney MP Mr Courts added that, although he 'firmly agrees' that EU residency rights should be top of the agenda, "it is essential that this is agreed alongside the rights of UK citizens living in the EU".

Monday's vote came after leading academics of 35 Oxford University colleges pleaded with MPs to protect the rights of EU citizens and claimed an exodus of academics has already begun.

In a letter to The Times newspaper, which was signed by Oxford's vice-chancellor Louise Richardson and the

institution's colleges, the group urged MPs to back the Lords' amendments and tell Prime Minister Theresa May that EU workers must stay.

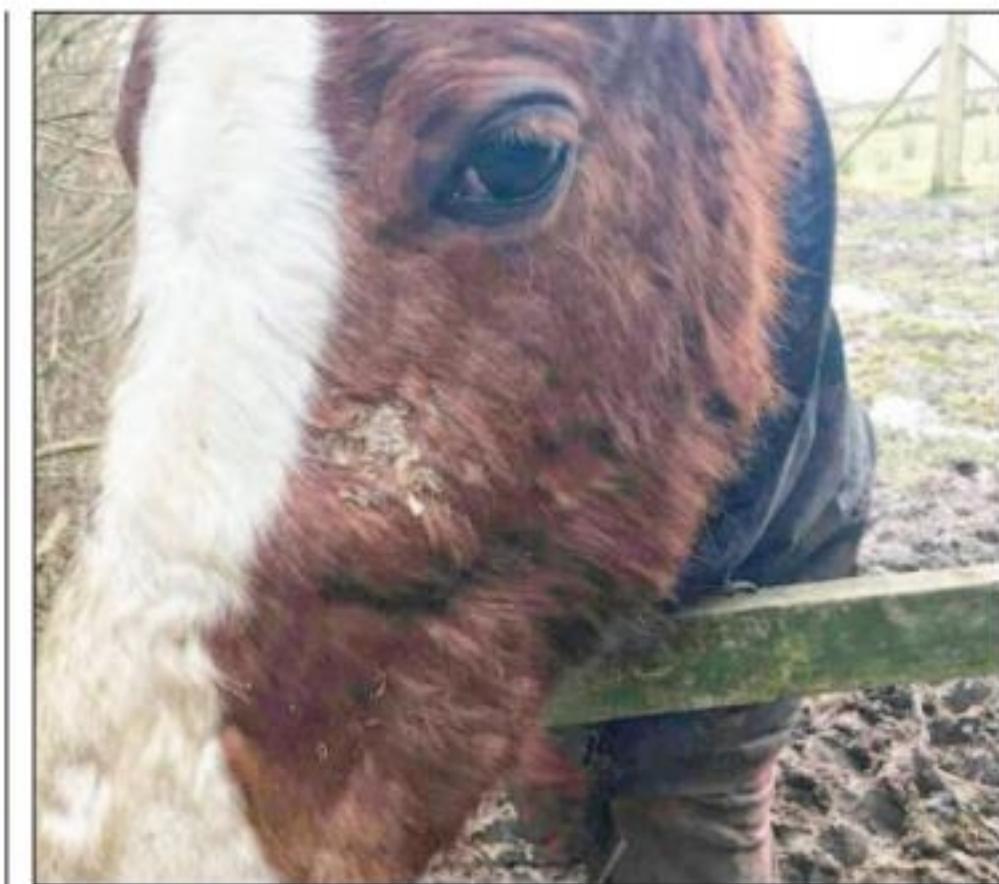
They said: "Oxford University relies on EU citizens as lecturers, researchers and support staff.

"Our EU colleagues are not reassured by a government which tells them that deportation is not going to happen but declines to convert that assurance into law; some are worried, some are already making plans to leave."

Mrs May is to trigger Article 50 to begin the UK's departure from the EU by the end of this month, and she could get the process under way from next week.

And while former Conservative Henley MP Lord Michael Heseltine was sacked as a Government adviser last week after saying the final Brexit deal would be "totally unpredictable", a director from Harwell Campus has said the facility is continuing to grow.

Angus Horner said: "The UK Government is full square behind Harwell, regardless of Brexit."



• Nursing Denny back to full health will cost Blue Cross £3,000

Charity caring for horse found knee-deep in mud

AN EMACIATED horse has been rescued after being found abandoned knee-deep in mud.

Burford charity Blue Cross is now caring for three-year-old Denny, who had sores on his legs from standing too long in the mud. His hooves were in a terrible state.

He was also found to be riddled with worms and suffering with a rotten tooth, infected sinuses and an abscess on his face.

Vicki Alford, from Blue Cross Burford, said: "We have given Denny worming treatment and he's been prescribed antibiot-

ics to clear up the infection – it must be so sore. But he will soon need surgery to remove his rotten tooth.

"He's been put on a specialist feeding regime to introduce proper nutrition to his diet and he'll require around the clock monitoring during his recovery.

"We'll be here for Denny for as long as he needs us and we'll do everything we can to get him back to full health."

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School's tribute to women inspiring pupils to achieve

By George Welch

PUPILS and staff at a Moulsoford school marked last week's International Women's Day by saying thank you to the inspirational women in their lives.

Cranford House School commemorated last Wednesday's celebration day of all things female by writing the names of their heroes on a whiteboard and posing for a snap in a specially constructed frame.

And with everyone from mums, sisters and grandmas to famous figures getting a mention, the school said the day "proved a real celebration of the special women who make a difference to us all".

Perhaps unsurprisingly, mums received the largest share of the vote, but the children also named historical female figures, artists and sportswomen as inspirations, alongside many of their Cranford House teachers.

Year 8 pupils Amelie Lawrence Bristow and Alanna Webb said: "Women fought for us to have the right to vote, be educated and work.

"International Women's Day is important as it celebrates their contribution and how far we've come."

Among the famous women to receive a special thank you from the school were film star Emma Watson, Afghan women's rights activist Malalai, civil rights icon Rosa Parks, retired British sailor Ellen MacArthur, gymnast Claudia Fragapane, and Mother Theresa.

Assistant head (academic), Christine Ellis, said: "The theme of this year's International Women's Day is 'Be Bold for Change' and changing the world often comes from igniting small individual sparks of change.

"I want our pupils to look at the lives and achievements of inspirational women and say, 'Yes, women can! I can! I can be who and what I want and reach as high as is humanly possible.'

The English department also marked the day with the launch of a creative writing competition called 'With These Hands', challenging senior pupils to imagine all the things their hands will do for them in the future.



Bus strikes called off after talks

TWO additional dates for bus strike action across Oxfordshire have been suspended following "positive" talks.

Crowds of people lined the streets on March 2 and 6 in a dispute regarding Christmas bank holiday pay, and two further dates on March 17 and 24 had been scheduled by Unite for Oxford Bus Company routes.

According to the union, bus bosses refused to pay drivers extra

for working on two legally recognised bank holidays over the festive season, which meant drivers lost £100 a day.

But after talks between ACAS – an organisation that helps resolve employment disputes – and Unite, Oxford Bus Company announced it has "agreed a framework with the trade union to move towards a resolution to its ongoing dispute".

Phil Southall, managing director of Oxford Bus Company, said: "We're pleased to announce that, following several talks with Unite and ACAS this week, Unite has agreed to suspend its strikes.

"This is great news for our customers, and we apologise for any inconvenience that has been experienced to date.

"With the threat of strike action now removed, Unite and our management team can resume talks."

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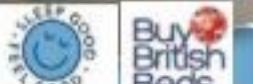
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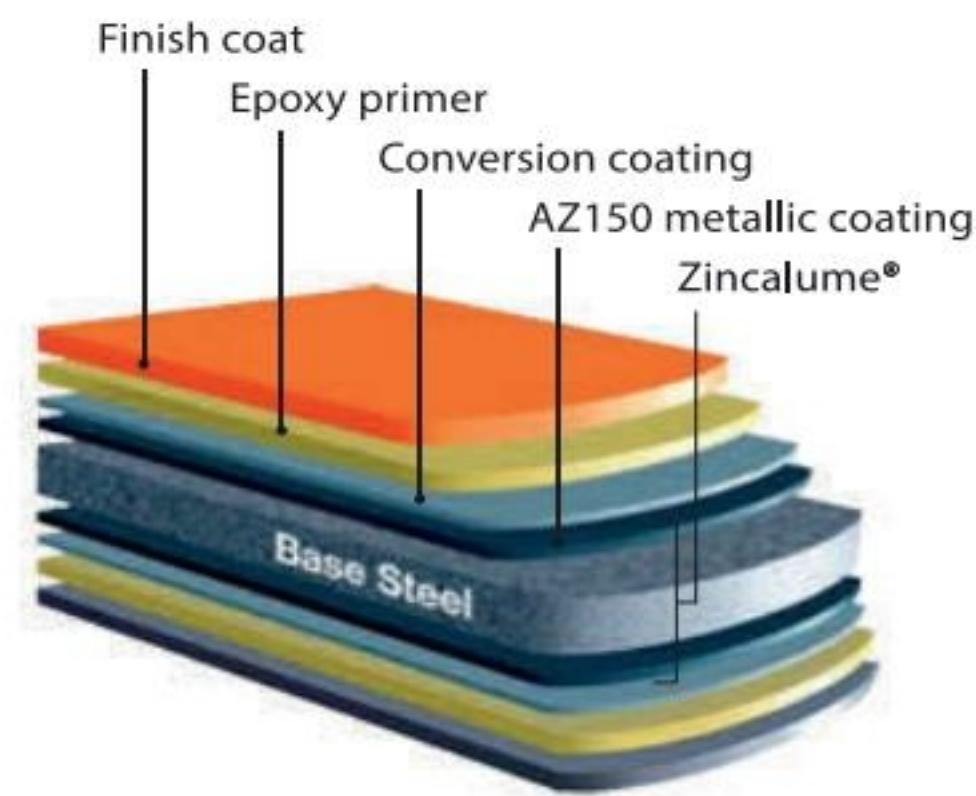
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Cabinet says yes to proposals for unitary council

By Eva Astreinidou

PLANS to abolish the current six-council structure and transform it into a unitary 'Better Oxfordshire' have been approved by Oxfordshire County Council (OCC).

At a cabinet meeting on March 14, OCC formally gave the go-ahead to the decision to submit the unitary bid to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

'A new council for a Better Oxfordshire' is a joint proposal by OCC, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils.

It comes after resistance from the three remaining councils Cherwell, Oxford City, and West Oxfordshire, who in the run-up to the decision had launched petitions and surveys in opposition to the restructure.

In the meeting, OCC leader Ian Hudspeth said: "Some people who oppose change have chosen to present the proposal

as a threat to services and local democracy. Actually, the opposite is true.

"Without change to the way local government is run, we face more years of salami slicing as central government funding is reduced.

"The Better Oxfordshire proposal puts local government on a sustainable financial footing for the future.

"In contrast, choosing the status quo is a decision with real downsides."

Speaking on the opposition, he said: "I do regret that the remaining city and district councils continue to reject our invitations to work together.

"Let me sincerely repeat the invitation to do so."

He added that it would be a 'missed opportunity' to join up services like housing and social care and said that a unitary council would maximise the ability of public services to work with the NHS.

He said access to a £1bn local investment fund would mean

that the unitary could fund infrastructure improvements when the government cannot.

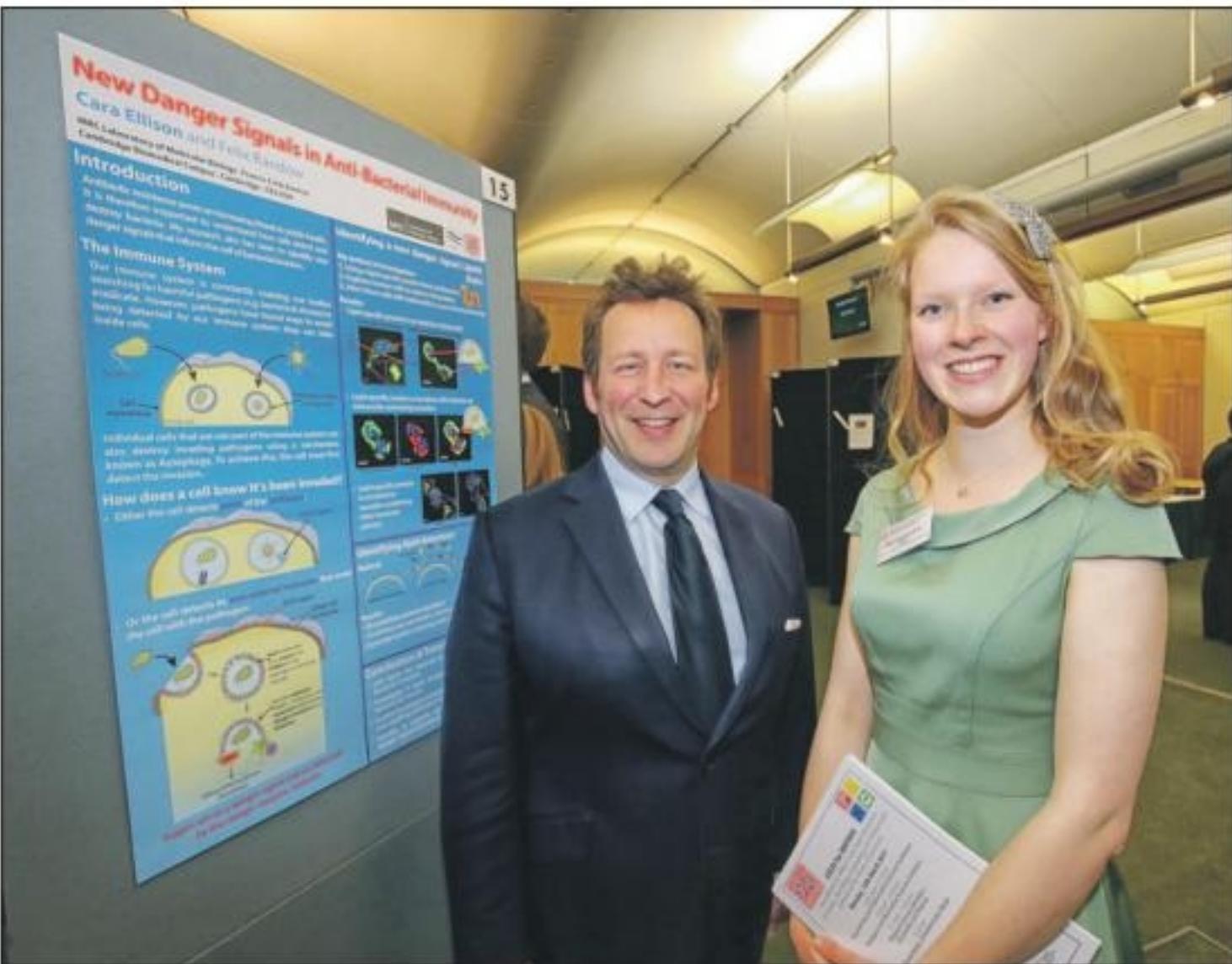
The opposing councils commissioned market research company Ipsos MORI to gauge the opinion of residents to the proposals.

Ipsos MORI contacted 1,950 Oxfordshire residents and found that 82 per cent had little or no understanding of the unitary council proposals.

Almost three quarters (68 per cent) said they did not have sufficient information about how the unitary council proposals would impact them and their area.

Before the meeting on Tuesday, people in South Northamptonshire, whose residents and businesses share services with Cherwell district council, were urged to show support against the unitary move.

Cllr Ian McCord, leader of the council, said: "It is not possible to pull one council off the see-saw and jettison the other in the air, OCC must come clean and make their plans clear."



• Cara Ellison met Ed Vaizey MP when she presented her research to parliament

Cara wows MPs with virus thesis

A FORMER Abingdon schoolgirl has presented her PhD research to a team of MPs and experts in parliament.

Cara Ellison, who went to St Helen and St Katharine School in Faringdon Road, handed her work on antibiotic resistance to politicians and judges on Monday as part of a STEM for Britain competition.

The 25-year-old, who grew up in Letcombe Regis, near

Wantage, created a poster about her studies, which was judged alongside other students' work. She said she "thoroughly enjoyed presenting and discussing" her work.

Cara has just completed her third year as a PhD student at the MRC-Laboratory of Molecular Biology (LMB) in Cambridge and is currently writing her thesis.

She said: "Initially I expect

to be a postdoctoral researcher at the LMB."

She said she was inspired to undertake her research as she is "fascinated by the way tiny bacteria and viruses have evolved to invade, hijack and destroy cells".

"This interest led me to embark on a PhD uncovering new ways in which cells detect invasion by bacteria and viruses."

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New offices anchor park as a science destination

By George Welch

THE owners behind a £24m project to build an office and laboratory development at Milton Park have appointed its joint agents for the expansion as construction gathers pace.

Work at MEPC's Park Drive East development, located towards the eastern end of Milton Park, began last month, with the venture expected to take 12 months to complete and create 1,000 jobs.

* Ground breaking work at Milton Park last month to prepare for building to start



With ground now broken at the site of one of Oxfordshire's largest speculative developments, MEPC last week announced Knight Frank and VSL and Partners as the scheme's joint agents.

Park Drive East, which aims to satisfy office and laboratory space in the county, will be comprised of three separate buildings totalling 110,000 sq ft and will include an office building and two hi-tech laboratory facilities.

The agents have been tasked with filling the new offices, with work on the building expected to finish by the end of the year and the two remaining buildings due to be completed in spring 2018.

The development was one of the first to secure planning permission since the EU referendum and will be the largest in Oxfordshire's recent history, MEPC said.

MEPC's commercial director, Philip Campbell, said: "Launching this scheme will pave the

way for existing residents to grow and will offer the opportunity for MEPC to welcome new companies to Milton Park who we know will be in good company with the existing science cluster mix here.

"MEPC's close links with the world's premier university at Oxford continues to anchor Milton Park as a destination for science and technology and a premium destination for business."

Ryan Dean, partner at Knight Frank, said: "Park Drive East is a major development for Milton Park and we are excited to be working with the MEPC team.

"I am confident that these fantastic buildings, in this world-class business location, are already attracting good interest.

"There is currently a lack of existing options of this size in the marketplace and these buildings will fit the bill perfectly."

Tom Barton, partner at VSL, added that they "have already had a good level of interest".

Located in the heart of the Science Vale UK Enterprise Zone, Milton Park is one of Europe's largest business, science and technology parks with over 9,000 people and 250 organisations based there.



* Council leader Ian Hudspeth tucks into his pie
(Picture courtesy of @ianhudspeth)

Leader earns a crust

LAST week was National Pie Week and Oxfordshire County Council leader Ian Hudspeth couldn't resist tucking into a pie of his own. The Conservative councillor

Woodstock proudly posted a picture on Twitter of him

enjoying a pie with a glass of wine at The White House Bar and Restaurant in Bladon, Woodstock.

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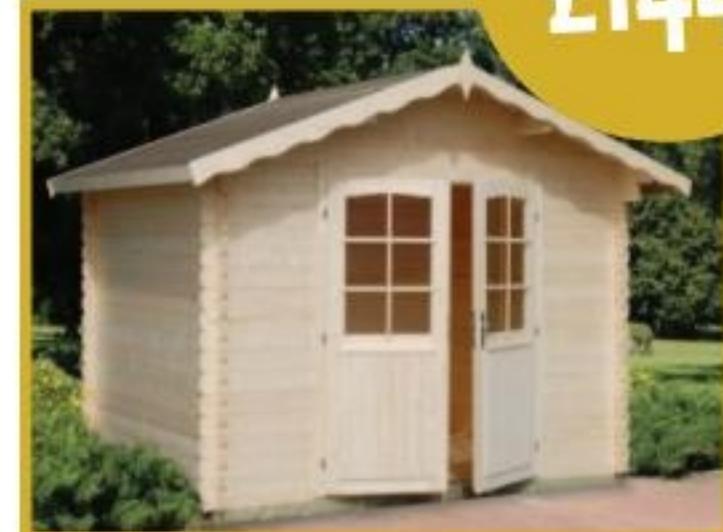


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Will there be a brilliant Matt finish for charity?

By George Welch

A DAD-OF-THREE is getting ready to lace up his trainers and pound the streets of Reading this weekend to support an Oxfordshire fundraising organisation that changes young lives.

Matthew Hambridge, 35, who works at Cottsway Housing Association in Witney, is stepping up to take on his second half marathon in five months to raise funds for our charity of the year, Play2Give (P2G).

Matt, from Witney, aims to conquer the Reading Half Marathon on Sunday to support P2G's £10k in 10 appeal. Money raised will be put towards the group's 10th anniversary fundraising ethos of P2G after meeting

versary fundraising for the Children's Hospital at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Headington.

Matt, who is no stranger to half marathons, completed last October's Oxford Half Marathon and has supported P2G for a number of years, a cause close to his heart.

His efforts to raise funds for P2G helped the group achieve a £40,000 target to sponsor its room on the teenage ward at the children's hospital, which also over the years helped pay for vital medical equipment, entertainment, and medical research after the hospital was opened in 2007.

Matt said: "I became inspired to support the work and fundraising ethos of P2G after meeting

the founder and former Chox patient, Andrew Baker.

"I met Andrew in 2009 at a football tournament for which I entered a team, and also by knowing Dale Harris over many years, whose 14-year-old daughter Mya has been treated by the hospital since day one for spina bifida, so I wanted to be involved in some way.

"I have also played in a couple of charity matches as well as foregoing shaving for a month for 'Movember'. I help sell wristbands as P2G's merchandise to help raise funds and I'll continue to do so for years to come."

Matt hopes to raise £200 for P2G and can be sponsored at tinyurl.com/hfq5oddb.

Funds he raises will support P2G's aim to help the Children's Hospital raise £2million this year to fund a new parental accommodation unit, specialised medical equipment and new play areas.

The 13.1-mile gruelling run on Sunday starts at Green Park and finishes at the Madejski Stadium.

Craig Harris, of Bicester, who has helped the P2G team for many years, is also gearing up for his own running mission as he prepares to take part in next month's London Marathon to raise money for the Children's Hospital.

To donate to the charity's 10-year appeal, visit tinyurl.com/zksd8xx



THE OXFORD PAPER
and
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Play2Give

Matthew Hambridge is preparing to run 13.1 miles



Countdown is on for fun-filled football fiesta

THE countdown is well and truly under way to a match of the day to remember as Play2Give (P2G) launches the fifth edition of its fun-filled football tournament.

The six-a-side kids football tournament returns on July 16 as the charity, founded 10 years ago by Andy Baker, aims to net funds for the Children's Hospital, based at the John Radcliffe.

The tournament – sponsored for this sixth year running by estate agents Breckon & Breckon – is now open to boys' teams across the ages of under 13s and under 14s.

This year's event will help P2G with its £10k in 10 appeal, and all proceeds raised for the Children's Hospital will, as well as funding new play areas and specialised medical equipment,

help fund the building of a new 60-bedroom Ronald McDonald House adjacent to CHOX for parents, allowing them to stay closer to their sick children.

It is hoped up to £5,000 could be scored at the football-frenzied event, to be hosted at Oxford City Football Club in Marston.

The tournament, which has been P2G's key main event

since its creation in 2007, has in the past seen men's teams also compete, and is one of the favourite fundraising fixtures in the county's calendars.

For more details or to enter the tournament, email play2give@hotmail.com for an entry form and more information or see play2give.org.uk, where a registration form can also be downloaded.

Image courtesy of Joules

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• Paul Newman, Thames Valley Police schools liaison officer, talks to pupils

Children give police a lesson in being young

SCHOOLCHILDREN from north Oxfordshire have given their view on how to tackle issues facing young people.

Seven schools from across the Cherwell district took part in the initiative, called Have Your Say Day, at the council's Bodicote headquarters.

Children were split into groups and given a £30,000 budget to identify an issue they wanted to resolve and come up with a solution.

Pupils presented their plans to a judging panel made up of police officers, councillors and North Oxfordshire MP Victoria Prentis. Among the issues was online safety, bullying and after-school activities.

The winning team was from Warriner School, who proposed a 'Litterbug App' as a fun, interactive way of encouraging a cleaner community.

Ms Prentis said: "I thought it was interesting to see the students had picked up on some very important matters, including problems with litter in our local area and mental health issues."

"It is vital children feel a sense of ownership of their local communities and the event was a great way to make this happen."

Inspector John Batty, Cherwell Neighbourhood Inspector, said: "Engaging with the police and helping shape policing priorities is all part of being a good citizen. The earlier we as public bodies can enable this, the better."

Cllr Tony Ilott, Cherwell's lead member for public protection, said he was "truly impressed by the children's passion and commitment throughout the day".

By Samantha McGregor

PLANS to start work on phase two of Bicester's eco town have been recommended for approval by council officers.

Portfolio Property Partners want to build 1,700 homes, a retirement village, a school, community facilities and an energy centre at Himley Farm, off Middleton Stoney Road.

But concerns have been raised about the impact on traffic in Howes Lane, Lords Lane and Bucknell Road.

There are plans to realign Howes Lane and build a tunnel under the railway embankment to join Lords Lane and Bucknell Road, but lead eco town developer A2Dominion has yet to get the green light from Network Rail.

It is in negotiation with the rail firm to buy the land so the tunnel can be built. The council report said A2Dominion expected work on the tunnel to start towards the end of 2019.

Because the roads are almost at capacity Oxfordshire County Council has imposed a limit of 900 new homes before the realigned Howes Lane is in place.

The delay in starting work on the road improvements has also



• The current eco town site off Banbury Road

caused a clash between A2Dominion and Portfolio Property Partners over who should be allowed to build new homes first up to the 900 limit.

Eventually there will be 6,000-homes at the eco site at North West Bicester.

A2Dominion has full planning approval for 393 homes at Elmsbrook, off Banbury Road – so far 90 have been occupied. It hopes to get permission for a further 507 shortly.

But Portfolio Property Partners doesn't believe A2Dominion would build the homes quickly enough before the tunnel is in place and thinks it already accepted by 2019."

Councillors are due to decide tonight.

News Bites

Smoke shock

N OXON: A woman returned home to find her property filled with smoke.

Firefighters quickly dealt with the incident in Barford St Michael, near Deddington, last Thursday.

Crew manager Mike Aspinall, from Banbury Fire Station, said: "The family were very lucky no one was in at the time. If this was the early hours of the morning it could have been a completely different outcome."

Thanks alot

BANBURY: Allotments are available at Sinclair Avenue for people who want to grow their own fruit, vegetables or flowers.

A patch costs £13 per half plot per year.

Cllr Colin Clarke, chairman of the town council's general services committee, said: "Now is the perfect time to take over an allotment.

"The land can be prepared in time for seeding, which will provide fresh produce later in the year."

Book signing

N OXON: Oxfordshire-based author Jan Harvey will be signing copies of her debut novel, *The Seven Letters*, at The Manor, Weston-on-the-Green, at 7pm on March 30.

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'Shocked' Chloe is crowned county's finest apprentice

By George Welch

APPRENTICES across Oxfordshire have been celebrating after the county's first ever apprenticeship award ceremony.

The inaugural Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards recognised the best talent in the county with a special presentation evening on Wednesday last week at the Marlborough Enterprise Centre in Woodstock.

The celebration of the achievements of local employers, training providers, schools and apprentices took place during the 10th National Apprenticeship Week.

The new awards enabled Oxfordshire Apprenticeships, part of Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP), to celebrate the achievements of the county's apprentices.

Chloe Penniston, a legal services apprentice at The Burnside Partnership, a boutique private client law firm based in Combe, west Oxfordshire,

won the Apprentice of the Year Award.

Chloe was also named Advanced Apprentice of the Year and was chosen as the overall winner by sponsors Darke & Taylor because "she is an inspirational apprentice, dedicated to her role and her team, who has quickly become an integral part of the business and a role model both for her colleagues".

On winning her awards, Chloe, who said she was still in shock the following morning said it "has been an amazing experience".

She added: "I would never have thought that I could win two such brilliant awards. The whole evening was such a fantastic experience, which I will never forget. I cannot thank my employers enough for giving me this opportunity."

While Faringdon Community College won the School Award, Abingdon & Witney College also had much to cheer about as the college and its apprentices came

away from the evening with a haul of three trophies.

This included Gemma Tuckey, who won the Special Recognition Award as a business administration apprentice at Oxfordshire County Council, and horticulture apprentice Sasha Fraser, who was rewarded for her work at Oxford City Council.

The college also won the prize for best Training Provider, overcoming stiff competition in the form of Wallingford-based Jewel Training and construction specialists ACE Training.

Di Batchelor, principal at Abingdon & Witney College, was full of praise for staff and apprentices alike. She said it was "a very good night for the college" and that she felt "very proud to be its principal".

She added: "The fact that we are regarded as the top training provider in the county, and that so many of our apprentices were nominated for awards, is a testament to everyone's hard work and determination to achieve success."



Double award winner Chloe Penniston, a legal services apprentice at The Burnside Partnership

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Chainsaw-wielding firefighters to clear fallen trees in new trial

By George Welch

A TRIAL has been launched to help improve the collection of fallen trees across Oxfordshire in an attempt to improve safety and save money.

Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC) experiment will mean dangerous fallen trees will be removed from the county's roads by the fire and rescue service instead of private contractors.

At the moment the county council's contractors deal with all fallen trees but council chiefs believe that in many circumstances a "blue light" response will be able to restore safety and traffic flows quicker, as well as saving money.

The work will be carried out by OCC's Fire and Rescue Service chainsaw trained firefighters from the Specialist Rescue Team and will take responsibility for dealing with any tree that falls on the highway.

County councillor Rodney Rose, deputy leader of OCC, said: "The Fire and Rescue Service is an integral part of the county council and it makes sense that they should use our specialist skills and resources to benefit residents if it can save



Firefighters work to deal with removing fallen trees from roads. Pictures: OFRS

time, maintain safety and save money."

Only trees that fall on roads are to be dealt with by the fire service. Trees on private land will remain the responsibility of the owners.

The council will still have access to its current tree contractors who will carry out emergency work in the event of high numbers of trees down or if the fire and rescue service is lacking sufficient resources.

County councillor David Nimmo Smith, cabinet member for environment, said: "Residents will know all about the work that our crews do to rescue people and put out fires, but

they can help with is quite broad. "I will be keen to see the results of the trial as it has the potential to provide a faster and more efficient service."

Around 100 trees fell in wind speeds of 94mph last month.

Theatre gets £10,000 for child literacy

PRIMARY school children in Oxford are being encouraged to get creative after an independent theatre received a £10,000 grant to increase youth participation.

The money has been given to the Oxford Playhouse by Oxford City Council, which said it would be used "to improve literacy, develop storytelling, encourage imagination and introduce young people to theatre".

A programme to help youth participation, called Primary Playmaker, has so far delivered 10 workshops in six Oxford primary schools to support groups of Year 5 and 6 pupils to create a 10-minute play.

The programme and workshops, which have been taking place since September, are being led by award-winning children's playwright Renata Allen.

The participating schools are Bayards Hill, East Oxford, New Hinksey, St John Fisher, St Michael's and Windale.

Two plays from each school will be performed by professional actors at the Playhouse, on Beaumont Street, on March 29 from 1pm. The performances will be part of the Young Players festival, a week-long celebration of work created and performed by young people.

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Two cut free as car hits tree

TWO elderly people had to be rescued using specialist equipment when their car veered into a row of trees.

The Vauxhall left the road in Concord Avenue at around 5.30pm on Saturday, leaving both the driver and passenger trapped on a small grassy verge outside Spiceball Leisure Centre.

Crews needed to use cutting equipment to remove branches before the occupants could be freed. Both were unharmed.

After an assessment by paramedics, the pair were given the all clear and were rescued from the vehicle.

Road safety manager Mick Clarke, who attended the incident, said: "It is not apparent why the accident happened but fortunately no one was injured and all three services worked quickly to ensure the safety of those involved.

"Both occupants were taken to the Horton Hospital for a full medical assessment."



Four prizes a boost for 'vibrant' centre

By Samantha McGregor

THAME has won four prizes at a regional conference aimed at boosting town centres.

All four will give practical help and support to businesses in Thame to foster a "vibrant town".

The Revive & Thrive Local Legends Conference in Cheshire earlier this month was attended by 80

representatives from towns and cities across the UK.

Sonja Francis and Helen Johns, who are steering group members of 21st Century Thame, represented the town.

The four prizes, funded by sponsors of the Local Legends Conference, are all aimed at improving the town centre and building Thame's profile.

They include work by Global Treasure Apps, who will develop a free treasure trail guide to Thame's visitor attractions.

There will also be marketing support, a digital health check and advice on how best to use data to support growth.

Revive & Thrive, who set up the Local Legends awards, will produce a special issue of Place magazine to promote every aspect of Thame.

Town centre co-ordinator Becky Reid said: "This is a fantastic boost for Thame, following our recent success in the Great British High Streets Competition.

"These great prizes will help us continue the journey to ensure Thame is the best of market towns for residents, businesses and visitors."

Sue Martin-Downhill, chairman of 21st Century Thame, said: "Working in partnership with Thame Town Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, local businesses and community groups, we aim to protect Thame's past while promoting its future as a vibrant town serving the whole community.

"These prizes will help us achieve these goals to benefit all."



Sonja Francis and Helen Johns represented Thame at the conference

News Bites

Town clean-up

BANBURY: The south side of Banbury is once again sparkling after it was given a spring clean by council staff.

Cherwell District Council workers spent a week last month clearing up litter, flytipping and graffiti at Calthorpe and Easington.

In total 26 tonnes of waste was removed.

The next blitz is scheduled to take place at Langford Village, in Bicester, next week.

Flying the flag

THAME: Residents are being urged to design a flag as part of a competition launched on Monday.

Designs should use the town council branding, colours and logo.

The idea is that the flag will be flown continuously outside the council office.

The competition closes on April 10. For a design pack view thame.towncouncil.gov.uk/flag-competition

Kebab van the best

THAME: A Thame kebab business has come out top in a national awards.

Atalay's kebab van won 'Kebab Van of the Year' at the British Kebab Awards last month.

The awards took place at a ceremony in London and were hosted by Radio 1 DJs Scott Mills and Chris Stark.

The winners were chosen through public votes and a judging panel.



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Competition

WIN family tickets to Gulliver's

Eggs-travagant Easter fun for everyone at Gulliver's this spring!

WE'VE teamed up with Gulliver's family theme parks to give away 3 family tickets for unforgettable days out this Easter.

Throughout Gulliver's Easter Extravaganza, there are lots of 'eggstra' special activities planned at Gulliver's World in Warrington, Gulliver's Kingdom in Matlock Bath and Gulliver's Land in Milton Keynes.

Over the four day Easter bank holiday weekend there will be some very special appearances from the Easter Bunny plus amazing entertainment for you and your little chicks. Join the Gully Gang and enjoy Easter themed competitions and entertainment on the main stage, including the Easter Bunny Parade and the ultimate in springtime fun – the Big Bunny Bounce!

Gulliver's theme parks are open daily throughout their Easter Extravaganza which runs from 1st to 23rd April*, with a super selection of rides,

Closing date: Friday, March 24.

shows and attractions to discover, all devised for children aged two to 13.

Car parking is always free at Gulliver's and there is a great selection of food on offer.



For full details of opening times and to book, visit www.gulliversfun.co.uk.

Win tickets

To be in with a chance of winning a family ticket for four people to visit Gulliver's this Easter, answer this simple question.

Q: Which of these young animals isn't associated with Easter?

Bunny, Chick or Kitten?

T&Cs apply. See online entry form for details.

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
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Puzzles



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Quick Clues Across

- 4 Female relative (6)
- 8 Sang (7)
- 9 Terrified (6)
- 10 Transmitting apparatus (9)
- 11 Strip of fabric (4)
- 13 Prepares for publication (5)
- 14 Liberty (7)
- 16 Start a quarrel (7)
- 18 Flood (5)
- 19 Consumes (4)
- 21 Nomads (9)
- 22 Expenditure (6)
- 23 Group (7)
- 24 Highest points (6)

Quick Clues Down

- 1 Collies (9)
- 2 Shareholders (9)
- 3 Cheerful (5)
- 5 Move very slowly (4)
- 6 Fine cord (6)
- 7 Buy back (6)
- 9 Recreational activity
- 11 Moderate (9)
- 12 Coming after (9)
- 15 Attempt (5)
- 16 Dawn (6)
- 17 Kindly (6)
- 20 Notions (5)
- 21 Grow dim (4)

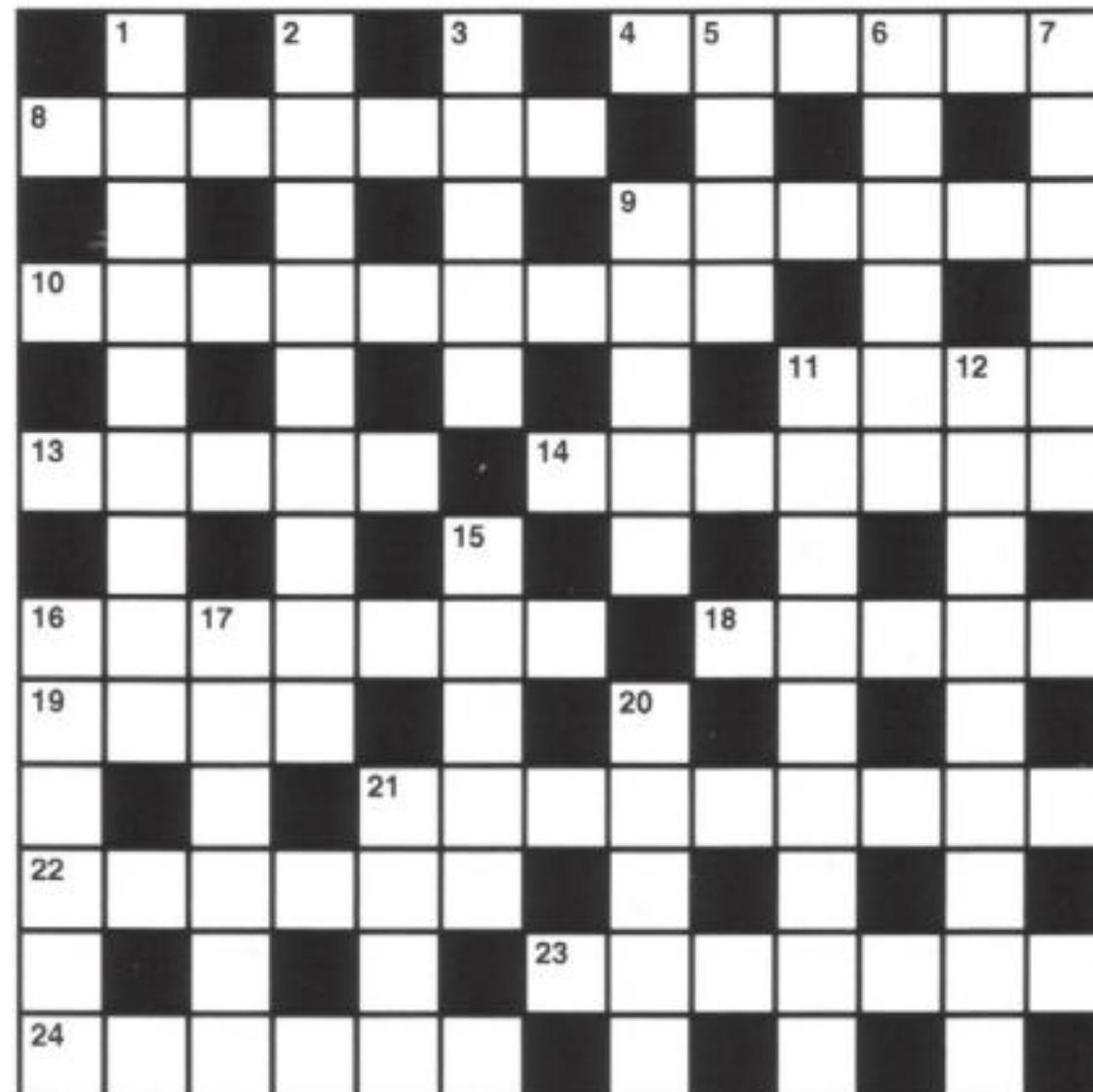
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

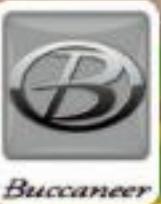
- 4 Frightened in Biafra, I dare say (6)
- 8 Claimed to get the point (7)
- 9 An eavesdropper of low degree (6)
- 10 An everyday remark showing restrained breadth (9)
- 11 Was Goliath keen to behead his opponent? (4)
- 13 Behead the guard to gain admittance (5)
- 14 Do they till the soil beyond distant French seas? (7)
- 16 He doesn't enjoy life, producing vinegar all around the south
- 18 Inclined to soak (5)
- 19 Looks as though she would provide shelter (4)
- 21 Give us our part to be carried away (9)
- 22 Curtail the action before the writer can make it more profound (6)
- 23 Forbid one as fruit (7)
- 24 Are its ingredients wholly ironic? (6)

Cryptic Clues Down

- 1 Helpers in disarray pour out again (9)
- 2 Trots back and died without (9)
- 3 Superfluous midriff, by the sound of it (5)
- 5 Watch this for the time being (4)
- 6 A recess in rural Coventry (6)
- 7 Is frightened of disturbing the snakes (6)
- 9 I do business with a model (5)
- 11 City for the Dutch master mad about a new movement? (9)
- 12 Not even abnormal (9)
- 15 Does the prima donna begin her note on the couch? (5)
- 16 A team's undertones? (6)
- 17 Join me in the money (6)
- 20 Here's a mixed toast to the furry animal (5)
- 21 Bring up, or it could be brought up (4)



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EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

	8	2			4	6		
9				5	1	7	4	
	1	9		6		5		
6			7	5			2	
3	8				5		7	
7	2		8	6				1
4		3		8	9			
5	7	6	2					
	9	5			8	2		

			1		9			
1	7					9	5	
9		2				3	7	
	8	5		6	1			
		3		4				
	9	7		8	2			
6		1				5	9	
3	4					2	6	
		4		2				

7		2	3				1	
	5						3	7
6					4		8	
	8	1			9			
					4		7	9
	9				2			6
8	3					1	9	5
	2							7

This week's solutions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	1
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	1
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	1
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

2017 STAYCATION SPECTACULAR

The Caravan Company (Sat 18th and Sunday 19th March)

WITH uncertainty over the UK's exit from the European Union, the pound has fallen and the price of foreign package holidays has risen. More and more people are choosing to "holiday at home" rather than going abroad and the "Staycation" is becoming a popular choice with both young families as well as older people.

Sales of touring caravans are on the up. Modern touring caravans are light and easy to tow, and come fitted with all the features you'd expect in your "home from home". For example: hot and cold running water, central heating, double glazing, fully fitted kitchens with fridge/freezer, oven and hob (many have microwave ovens), washrooms with hand basin, toilet and separate shower cubicle, plus satellite television.

On Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th March The Caravan Company, on the Main A4 Bath Road, Padworth in Reading will be holding their 2017 STAYCATION SPECTACULAR. You can view the area's biggest display of new, nearly new and approved used caravans, as well as enjoy some tasty food and refreshments from the free barbecue. See two, four, five and six berth touring caravans from all the leading manufacturers with prices from as little as £4000 to over £25,000, there's something to suit every budget and family.

Call 0118 971 5650 now for a valuation.

Plus there are lots of other AMAZING OFFERS clearly marked in the windows of caravans on-site, for example:

- HALF PRICE Motor Mover or
- FREE Essentials Pack or
- FREE Security pack or
- £1000 Part Exchange Allowance for any old caravan

THE Caravan Company:
MAIN A4 Bath Road, Padworth READING, Berkshire, RG7 5JD Tel: 0118 971 5650

12 MONTHS FREE INSURANCE

WHAT'S more if you do see a caravan that takes your fancy you will receive 12 months free insurance subject to terms and conditions, when you place an order during the event.

BEAT THE WAITING LISTS

MANY dealers only place an order with the factory when a customer pays a deposit, so you could be waiting months before your new holiday home arrives. Not at The Caravan Company, they have a fantastic selection of the latest new 2017 caravans by leading British manufacturers: Xplore, Buccaneer, Elddis, Sprite and Swift in stock now, ready to drive away.

And they offer the best price to buy your caravan, as a part exchange or for cash. They are always looking to buy well cared for quality caravans. Instant decision, and can even settle your existing finance agreement.

Call 0118 971 5650 now for a valuation.

Plus there are lots of other AMAZING OFFERS clearly marked in the windows of caravans on-site, for example:

- HALF PRICE Motor Mover or
- FREE Essentials Pack or
- FREE Security pack or
- £1000 Part Exchange Allowance for any old caravan

With around over 250 touring caravans in group stock, all makes, models and berths at prices from £4000 to over £20,000 there's sure to be something to suit every individual requirement and price. You can view their entire stock at: www.thecaravancompany.com

Something for everyone with lots to see and do...

- FREE Barbecue and refreshments will be available on both days
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- Children's games, colouring competition, and much more!

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- Britain's biggest selection of pre-owned touring caravans
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- All caravans price checked daily to offer unbeatable value
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Here's your chance to WIN TICKETS and get behind the U's as Oxfordshire heads for Wembley again!

Tickets are selling well for Oxford United's Checkatrade Trophy Final game against Coventry City at Wembley
The game takes place on Sunday 2nd APRIL 2017, with kick off at 2.30pm.

SEE NEXT PAGE for details on how to enter.

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The Oxfordshire Guardian has teamed up with Checkatrade, official title sponsor of the Checkatrade Trophy, to offer ten lucky fans the once in a lifetime chance to win four tickets to Wembley to see Oxford United take on Coventry City in the Checkatrade Final on April 2nd 2017.

Oxford United are on their way to the Checkatrade Trophy Final for a second year in a row and are unbeaten in the competition since last year's final. Michael Appleton's men struck late to beat Luton 3-2 away from home in the semi-final, setting up a grandstand cup final against a Coventry side who are visiting Wembley for the first time in 30 years.

Win tickets!

For your chance to win, just answer the following simple question:

Q: Who did Oxford beat to win their place in the Checkatrade Trophy Final?

Was it Chesterfield, Luton or Peterborough?

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

For full terms & conditions go to www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk/about-us

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WIN tickets to see Oxford United Vs Coventry City at Wembley

Closing date: Thursday, March 16

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Terms & Conditions

1. The prize consists of four tickets for ten winners to the game against Coventry City at Wembley on April 2nd 2017.
2. The package does not include travel to or from the ground or any hospitality at the ground.
3. Entrants are reminded that tickets are issued subject to Wembley and EFL regulations and the Conditions of Entry relevant to those tickets.
4. Fans are reminded that these tickets are in the Oxford United end and seats are amongst their supporters. Any away supporters found in home areas may be ejected from the ground either for the purposes of their own safety or for any other reason.
5. The competition is open to all UK residents with the exception of
6. No cash alternative will be offered.
7. The competition closes at midnight Thursday, March 16.
8. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the promoter reserves the right to offer an alternative prize of equal or greater value.
9. The promoter's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
10. All entrants must be willing to participate in publicity should they be a winner.
11. We reserve the right at any time to cancel, modify or supersede the competition if, in our sole discretion, the competition is not capable of being conducted as specified in the competition rules.

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employees of Coventry City, Oxford United or Hatch Communications, their immediate families, agents or anyone else associated with the administration

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All photos by Steve Daniels



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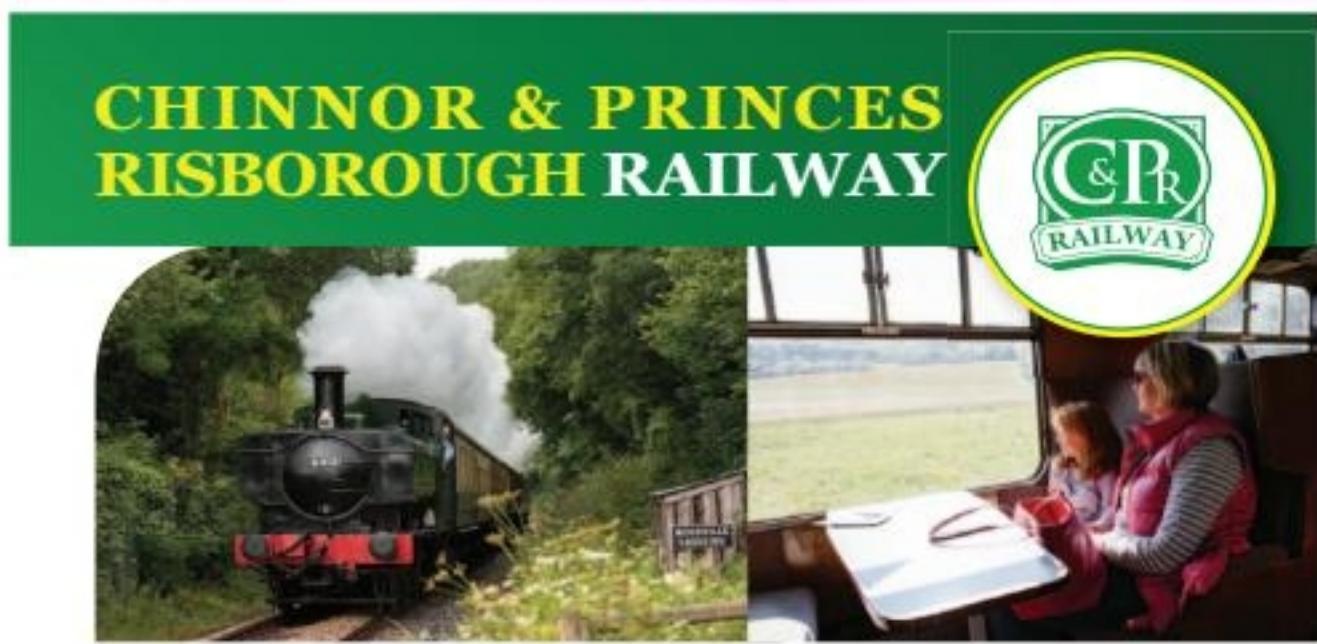
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On Sunday 26 March steam-hauled trains depart Chinnor at 11.00, 12.15, 13.30, 15.00 and 16.30. Fares: MUM FREE* when accompanied by any fare paying passenger, other Adults 16-59yrs £11, Seniors 60+ yrs £10, Children 3-15yrs £6 - see website for all details. Free car parking, tea room and souvenir shop at Chinnor station.

Looking Further Ahead & Diary Dates

14 to 17 April - Easter steam, FREE drinks + buns
29 April to 1 May - Kids 3-15yrs with Teddy FREE
21 May - Seniors 60+ yrs just £5pp
3 to 4 June - Railway Open Days FREE
18 June - Dad travels FREE

www.chinnorailway.co.uk



Everyone, keep Sunday, March 26th free as it is a very important day.

It's Mother's Day!

It is the only day of the year (apart from her birthday) that your mum can be treated like a queen by her loving family.

However, what can you do to make sure that your mum is being

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Sunday 26th March Open from 12pm-10pm

Enjoy a delicious array of cuisines

Book early to avoid disappointment!

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spoiled this year within a reasonable and sensible budget? **Think outside the box.**

Instead of getting the same old stuff that your mother could be expecting, be adventures and finally get her the thing or two that she deserves or has always wanted.

And don't worry or panic if

you can't think of getting the perfect present this year for your mum.

In and around the Basingstoke area, there are plenty of restaurants, jewellers and many more businesses that can help you give your mum the best Mother's Day for many a year.

This could be the year that she

got her favourite set of earrings or the one pair of shoes she has always wanted.

People need to remember that everyone only gets one mother, and it is down to you and your family to make sure that she feels loved and appreciative, as many mothers have sacrificed a lot.

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Sunday 26th March

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Quote Code: HQK663

View product online at
www.omega-holidays.com/HQK663The advertised price is correct as of 27 February 2017 and is based upon departures from Heathrow airport on 8 October 2017.**THE ITALIAN RIVIERA,**
Portofino and Monte CarloSaturday departures, 6 May and
2 & 16 September 2017**Price Includes...**

- ✓ Return flight from Heathrow airport to Nice[†]
- ✓ 7 nights half board at a 3 or 4 star hotel in Diano Marina or Alassio
- ✓ Three full-day excursions; to Rapallo & Portofino, Monte Carlo, and San Remo & Dolceacqua
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Quote Code: NPG396

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www.omega-holidays.com/NPG396The advertised price is correct as of 27 February 2017 and is based upon departures from Heathrow airport on 16 September 2017.**LAKE GARDA**Selected Saturday departures,
May - September 2017**Price Includes...**

- ✓ Return flight from Gatwick airport to Verona[†]
- ✓ 7 nights half board at the 3 star Hotel Bisesti, Garda
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

✓ Optional excursions available at a supplement;
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Quote Code: XJP304

View product online at
www.omega-holidays.com/XJP304The advertised price is correct as of 27 February 2017 and is based upon departures from Gatwick airport on 6 May 2017.**VALENCIA**
and Costa Blanca

Departing Wednesday 7 June 2017

Price Includes...

- ✓ Return flight from Gatwick airport to Alicante[†]
- ✓ 7 nights half board at the 4 star Cap Negret Hotel, Altea
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- ✓ Half-day excursion to Guadalest
- ✓ Full-day excursion to Valencia with half-day official guided tour
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& Catalonia

Thursday departures, 18 May & 5 October 2017

Price Includes...

- ✓ Return flight from Gatwick airport to Barcelona[†]
- ✓ 7 nights half board at the 4 star Aquahotel Promenade, Pineda de Mar
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- ✓ Full-day excursions to Montserrat and Figueres & Besalú
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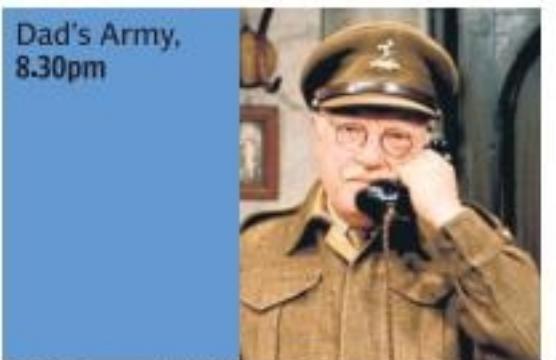
DAYTIME

BBC1



6.00 Breakfast (S) 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live (S) 11.30 Football Focus (S) 12.00 BBC News; Weather (S) 12.10 Live Six Nations Rugby Union (S) 2.25 Live Six Nations Rugby Union France v Wales (kick-off 2.45pm). (S) 5.00 Escape to the Country (S) (R) 5.40 BBC News (S) 5.50 BBC Regional News; Weather (S) 6.00 Pointless Celebrities (S) (R) 6.45 Let's Sing and Dance for Comic Relief (S)

BBC2



9.30 Coast (S) (R) 10.30 Homes Under the Hammer (S) (R) 11.30 Mary Berry Everyday (S) (R) 12.00 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo (S) (R) 12.30 FILM Firecreek (1968) (PG) 2.15 Bargain Hunt (S) (R) 3.00 Gardeners' World (S) (R) 3.30 University Challenge (S) (R) 4.00 Only Connect (S) (R) 4.30 Final Score (S) 5.30 Flog It! (S) (R) 6.30 Wild Ireland: The Edge of the World (S) (R)

ITV



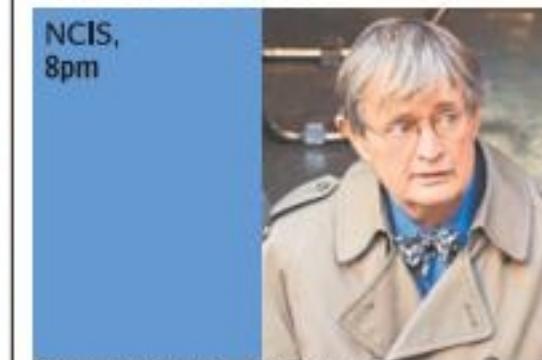
8.10 Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! (S) 8.30 Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School (S) 9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time (S) (R) 9.25 Alphabetical (S) (R) 10.20 Judge Rinder (S) (R) 11.20 Rebound (S) (R) 12.20 ITV News; Weather (S) 12.30 FILM Carry On Matron (1972) (PG) 2.15 Off Their Rockers (S) (R) 2.45 The Voice UK (S) (R) 4.00 Live Six Nations Rugby Union (S)

Channel 4



6.20 The King of Queens (S) (R) 6.45 Everybody Loves Raymond (S) (R) 7.35 Race of Champions 2017 (S) 8.30 Frasier (S) (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory (S) (R) 11.30 The Simpsons (S) (R) 1.00 Come Dine with Me (S) (R) 3.30 A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun (S) (R) 4.30 Location, Location, Location (S) (R) 5.35 Grand Designs (S) (R) 6.30 Channel 4 News (S)

Channel 5



6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Crime-fighting capers. (S) 10.30 Access Showbiz news and gossip. (S) 10.40 On Benefits: Life on the Dole (S) (R) 1.30 Dance Moms (S) 4.15 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door A woman who took issue when her neighbours started using her drop kerb and driveway. (S) (R) 5.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away (S) (R)

7

8.00 Who Dares Wins Game show in which strangers pair up to win money. (S) 8.40 Casualty Robyn goes into labour in a graveyard. (S)

9

9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys The family awaits the fruits of its fraud. (S) (R)

10

10.00 BBC News; Weather; (S) National Lottery Update (S) 10.20 Match of the Day Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches. (S)

11

11.45 This Country Mockumentary presenting a wry look at the lives of young people in rural Britain. (S)

AFTER

12.10 FILM My Brother the Devil (2012) (15) Drama, starring James Floyd and Fady Elsayed. (S) 1.55 Weather for the Week Ahead (S) 2.00 BBC News (S)

7

7.30 Britain at War: Imperial War Museums at 100 Falklands War veteran Simon Weston marks 100 years since the establishment of the Imperial War Museums. (S)

8.30

Dad's Army The men head off for a weekend at a training camp. (S) (R)

9

9.00 Dame Vera Lynn: Happy 100th Birthday The former "forces sweetheart" celebrates her 100th birthday by recalling highlights from her career. (S)

10

10.00 QI XL With Sheila Hancock, Jimmy Carr and Jeremy Clarkson. (S) 10.45 FILM True Grit (2010) (15) The Coen brothers' Western, with Jeff Bridges. (S)

11

12.30 FILM Ash Wednesday (2002) (18) Thriller, starring Edward Burns. (S) 2.00 This Is BBC Two (S)

7.30

Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway The presenter duo take on Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby in Make 'Em Laugh. (S)

8.30

The Voice UK The tension mounts as the contest enters the quarter-finals, and the coaches seek to find this year's eight semi-finalists. (S)

10

10.30 ITV News; Weather (S) 10.45 Lethal Weapon Riggs and Murtaugh pursue a case involving the latter's old training officer. (S) (R)

11

11.35 FILM Rambo III (1988) (18) Action adventure sequel, with Sylvester Stallone and Richard Crenna. (S)

12

1.25 Jackpot247 3.00 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S) (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen

7.00

Escape to the Chateau Dick and Angel try to live self-sufficiently, and invest in some chickens to provide them with eggs. (S) (R)

8.00

Penelope Keith at Her Majesty's Service The actress visits the Queen's official Scottish residence and the royal yacht Britannia. (S) (R)

9.00

FILM Lucy (2014) (15) A courier seeks revenge on the gangsters who kidnapped her after a drug grants her superhuman abilities. Sci-fi thriller, with Scarlett Johansson. (S)

10.45

FILM RoboCop (2014) (12) A critically injured police officer is rebuilt as a crime-fighting cyborg, but struggles to retain free will. Sci-fi thriller remake, with Joel Kinnaman. (S)

12.00

SuperCasino 3.10 Inside King's Cross: The Railway (S) (R) 4.00 Inside Buckingham Palace (S) (R) 4.50 House Doctor (S) (R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS (S) (R) 5.40 Angels of Jarm (S) (R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car (S) (R)

7.05

NCIS: Los Angeles A diplomatic service van is hijacked. (S)

8.00

NCIS Ducky is assaulted by a man who has information about his long-dead half-brother. (S)

8.55

5 News Weekend (S)

9.00

Football on 5: The Championship George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games, including Nottingham Forest v Derby County. (S)

10.00

Football on 5: Goal Rush (S) 10.30 Platoon: The True Story Oliver Stone reveals the real-life events that inspired his Oscar-winning Vietnam War film. (S)

11.30

Criminals: Caught on Camera CCTV footage of a raid on a west London jewellery shop. (S) (R)

12.00

SuperCasino 3.10 Inside King's Cross: The Railway (S) (R) 4.00 Inside Buckingham Palace (S) (R) 4.50 House Doctor (S) (R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS (S) (R) 5.40 Angels of Jarm (S) (R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car (S) (R)

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ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 You've Been Framed! Gold 6.25 Emmerdale 8.55 Coronation Street 11.20 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway 12.55 The Voice UK 2.15 FILM: Rumour Has It (2005) (12) Romantic comedy, starring Jennifer Aniston and Kevin Costner. 3.15 FYI Daily 3.20 FILM: Rumour Has It (2005) (12) Concluded. 4.20 FILM: Nanny McPhee (2005) (U) Period fantasy, starring Emma Thompson. 5.20 FYI Daily 5.25 FILM: Nanny McPhee (2005) (U) Concluded. 6.15 FILM: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) (PG) Comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. 7.15 FYI Daily 7.20 FILM: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) (PG) Concluded. 8.00 Scorpion 9.00 FILM: The 40 Year-Old Virgin (2005) (15) Comedy, starring Steve Carell. 10.00 FYI Daily 10.05 FILM: The 40 Year-Old Virgin (2005) (15) Comedy, starring Steve Carell. 11.25 Family Guy 12.55 American Dad! 1.50 Release the Hounds: Famous & Freaked 2.45 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 3.00 Teleshopping

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Judge Judy 6.20 Murder, She Wrote 8.10 FILM: Blue Murder at St Trinian's (1957) (PG) Comedy, starring Lionel Jeffries. 9.10 FYI Daily 9.15 FILM: Blue Murder at St Trinian's (1957) (PG) Concluded. 10.00 FILM: Carry On Up the Jungle (1970) (PG) Comedy, starring Sid James. 11.00 FYI Daily 11.05 FILM: Carry On Up the Jungle (1970) (PG) Concluded. 12.00 Hans Christian Andersen: My Life as a Fairy Tale 1.50 Agatha Christie's Marple 3.55 Rosemary & Thyme 5.00 Lewis 7.00 Midsomer Murders 11.00 Rising Damp Forever 12.00 Wycliffe 1.05 Marchlands 2.00 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Britain's Outlaws: Highwaymen, Pirates and Rogues 8.00 She-Wolves: England's Early Queens 9.00 Follow the Money 11.00 Top of the Pops: 1983 12.00 Neil Sedaka: King of Song 1.00 Neil Sedaka Says: All You Need Is the Music 1.45 Kings of 70s Romance 2.45 Sings Bacharach and David! 3.45 Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Rules of Engagement 6.20 Melissa & Joey 7.05 Baby Daddy 8.10 Young & Hungry 9.10 How I Met Your Mother 10.10 FILM: Planet 51 (2009) (U) Animated sci-fi comedy, with the voice of Dwayne Johnson. 12.00 Black-ish 1.00 The Goldbergs 2.30 The Big Bang Theory

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.30 FILM: The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (2010) (12) Romantic fantasy sequel, with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. 9.00 FILM: The Hunger Games (2012) (12) Sci-fi adventure, starring Jennifer Lawrence. 11.50 Gogglebox 12.50 Bizarre ER 1.55 Rude Tube 3.20 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 4.00 Young & Hungry 4.50 Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Come Dine with Me 11.30 Homes by the Sea 12.35 Location, Location, Location 1.35 Coast vs Country 2.40 Four in a Bed 5.20 Come Dine with Me 8.00 Richard III: The New Evidence 9.00 9/11: The Falling Man 10.35 24 Hours in A&E 11.40 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown 1.45 Father Ted 2.50 24 Hours in A&E 3.50 Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Dunston Checks In (1996) (PG) Family comedy, starring Jason Alexander. 1.00 The Addams Family (1991) (PG) Black comedy, starring Anjelica Huston. 3.05 Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon (1942) (PG) Mystery thriller, starring Basil Rathbone. 4.25 The Core (2003) (12) Sci-fi thriller, starring Aaron Eckhart. 7.10 Paddington (2014) (PG) Family comedy, starring Hugh Bonneville. 9.00 Last Vegas (2013) (12) Comedy, starring Michael Douglas. 11.05 Scary Movie 2 (2001) (18) Spoof horror sequel, starring Anna Faris. 12.40 In Fear (2013) (15) 2.20 Storage 24 (2012) (15) 4.00 Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Deadly 60 10.00 Top Gear 12.00 Motorway Cops 2.05 Gavin & Stacey 6.00 Top Gear 7.00 Not Going Out 9.00 Bottom 11.00 FILM: The Outlaw Josey Wales (1976) (18) Western, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. 1.40 The Last Man on Earth 2.35 Parks and Recreation 3.20 Mock the Week 4.00 Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Tenko 9.00 Tenko Reunion 11.00 Sharpe 1.00 Tenko 3.00 Tenko Reunion 5.00 The Ark 7.00 Hetty Wainthropp Investigates 8.00 Maisie Raine 9.00 Taggart 11.00 Waking the Dead 1.20 Sharpe 3.10 Hetty Wainthropp Investigates 4.00 Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Futurama 7.15 Modern Family 8.15 Game Changers 8.45 The Fantasy Football Club 9.45 Soccer AM 11.30 Live Premier League. Pre-match build up to West Bromwich Albion v Arsenal (kick off 12.30pm). 3.00 Gillette Soccer Saturday 5.15 Live EFL. Leeds United v Brighton & Hove Albion (kick-off 5.30pm). 8.00 EFL Goals 8.30 Nissan Game of the Day 10.30 Nissan Match Choice 11.30 Premier League Highlights

DIGITAL

West Bromwich Albion v Arsenal. 12.

Sunday March 19th

BBC1

Antiques Roadshow, 8pm



DAYTIME

6.00 Breakfast (S) 7.30 Match of the Day (S)(R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show (S) 10.00 The Big Questions (S) 11.00 Sunday Politics (S) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (S)(R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather (S) 1.15 Flog It! (S)(R) 2.15 Countryfile Spring Diaries (S)(R) 3.00 Escape to the Country (S)(R) 3.45 Lifeline (S) 3.55 Songs of Praise (S) 4.30 Shop Well for Less? (S)(R) 5.30 BBC News (S) 5.50 BBC Regional News (S) 6.00 The Big Painting Challenge (S)

7

7.00 Countryfile Matt Baker and Anita Rani present the show from the Hoo Peninsula. (S)

8

8.00 Antiques Roadshow Fiona Bruce presents the show from Burton Constable Hall near Hull. (S)

9

9.00 SS-GB Archer and Harry have to get the king out of London, only to realise too late that they have been led into a trap. Barbara faces being deported back to the US. Last in the series. (S)

10

10.00 BBC News (S)
10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S)
10.30 Match of the Day 2 Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action. (S)

11

11.40 American High School The school year comes to an end. Last in the series. (S)

AFTER

12.30 The Celebrity Apprentice USA (S) 1.55 Weather for the Week Ahead (S) 2.00 BBC News (S)

12

12.05 FILM Sergeant Rutledge (1960) (PG) Western courtroom drama, starring Woody Strode. (S) 1.50 Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R) 2.50 Holby City (S)(R) 3.50 This Is BBC Two (S)

BBC2

Robot Wars, 7pm



9.45 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites (S) 11.15 Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day (S)(R) 11.45 Simply Nigella (S)(R) 12.15 MOTD2 Extra (S) 1.00 FILM Day of the Evil Gun (1968) (PG) (S) 2.30 The House That £100K Built (S)(R) 3.30 Back to the Land with Kate Humble (S)(R) 4.30 Ski Sunday Special: Freestyle Ski & Snowboard World Championships (S) 6.00 Six Nations Rugby Union (S)

7.00 Robot Wars Dara O Briain and Angela Scanlon present the third heat. (S)

8.00 Top Gear Rory Reid and Sabine Schmitz go in search of the latest supercars at Germany's Nurburgring circuit. (S)

9.00 Down the Mighty River with Steve Backshall Part two of two. The naturalist braves the dangerous white waters of the Balem River's lower gorge. (S)

10.00 FILM While We're Young (2014) (15) Premiere. Comedy drama, starring Ben Stiller and Naomi Watts. (S)

11.35 Women's Six Nations Highlights Eilidh Barbour presents action from the concluding round of fixtures. (S)

12.05 FILM Sergeant Rutledge (1960) (PG) Western courtroom drama, starring Woody Strode. (S) 1.50 Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R) 2.50 Holby City (S)(R) 3.50 This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule, 6.30pm



10.00 Peston on Sunday (S) 10.55 Wild Australia with Ray Mears (S)(R) 11.25 Chopping Block (S)(R) 12.25 ITV News; Weather (S) 12.30 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) 1.30 Off Their Rockers (S)(R) 2.00 Tipping Point (S)(R) 3.00 The Voice UK (S)(R) 5.00 Little Big Shots (S)(R) 6.00 ITV Regional News; Weather (S) 6.10 ITV News (S) 6.30 Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule (S)(R)

7.00 Five Gold Rings Game show, hosted by Phillip Schofield. (S)

8.00 Vera New series. The detective investigates when the body of a wildlife ranger is found on a remote island. (S)

10.00 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.20 The Nightly Show Best Bits Highlights from the third week of the entertainment show. (S)
10.50 Peston on Sunday Political magazine. (S)(R)

11.50 Anglo-Welsh Cup Highlights Action from the final.

12.40 Jackpot247 3.00 The Cube (S) (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

12.00 FILM The Five-Year Engagement (2012) (15) (S) 2.10 The Last Leg (S)(R) 3.05 Scruffts: Britain's Favourite Dog (S)(R) 4.00 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures (S)(R) 4.10 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent (S)(R) 5.05 Fifteen to One (S)(R)

Channel 4

Our Guy in China, 7pm



6.15 The King of Queens (S)(R) 6.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (S)(R) 7.35 Race of Champions 2017 (S) 8.30 Frasier (S)(R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch (S) 12.30 The Simpsons (S)(R) 1.30 FILM Rio (2011) (U) (S) 3.25 FILM Johnny English Reborn (2011) (PG) Spy comedy sequel, starring Rowan Atkinson. (S) 5.30 Channel 4 News (S) 6.00 Dave's Guide to Spending Money (S)

7.00 Our Guy in China Guy Martin examines Chinese innovation, technological development and manufacturing. (S)(R)

8.00 Rivers with Jeremy Paxman The presenter travels along the Mersey. (S)

9.00 Homeland While Carrie and Saul present evidence to Keane, Quinn tracks a mark. (S)

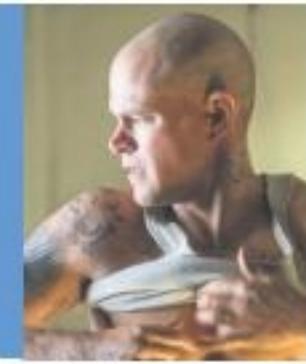
10.00 Gogglebox Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (S)(R)

11.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown Jimmy Carr hosts the popular quiz. (S)(R)

12.00 FILM The Five-Year Engagement (2012) (15) (S) 2.10 The Last Leg (S)(R) 3.05 Scruffts: Britain's Favourite Dog (S)(R) 4.00 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures (S)(R) 4.10 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent (S)(R) 5.05 Fifteen to One (S)(R)

Channel 5

Elysium, 9pm



10.30 Football on 5: The Championship (S)(R) 11.30 Football on 5: Goal Rush (S)(R) 12.00 The Gadget Show (S)(R) 1.05 FILM Batteries Not Included (1987) (PG) (S) 3.05 FILM Zathura: A Space Adventure (2005) (PG) (S) 5.00 FILM Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 (2013) (U) (S) 6.50 5 News Weekend (S) 6.55 FILM Left Behind (2014) (15) (S)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Emmerdale 8.30 Coronation Street 11.00 The Voice UK 1.00 2Awesome 1.05 2Awesome: Guidance 1.40 2Awesome: Fame High 2.05 2Awesome: Third Wheel 2.30 2Awesome: LA Story 2.50 You've Been Framed! Gold 3.55 FILM: Despicable Me (2010) (U) Animated comedy, with the voice of Steve Carell. 4.55 FYI Daily 5.00 FILM: Despicable Me (2010) (U) Concluded. 5.50 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway 6.55 FILM: Red Riding Hood (2011) (12) Fantasy, starring Amanda Seyfried. 7.55 FYI Daily 8.00 FILM: Red Riding Hood (2011) (12) Concluded. 9.00 Ibiza Weekender 10.00 Family Guy 11.30 American Dad! 12.30 The Cleveland Show 1.25 The Vampire Diaries 2.15 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 On the Buses 6.50 Hans Christian Andersen: My Life as a Fairy Tale 8.40 Heartbeat 10.45 Murder, She Wrote 11.45 FILM: The Pure Hell of St Trinian's (1960) (U) Comedy, starring Cecil Parker. 12.45 FYI Daily 12.50 FILM: The Pure Hell of St Trinian's (1960) (U) Concluded. 1.50 Inspector Morse 4.05 Agatha Christie's Marple 6.00 Midsomer Murders 8.00 Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs 9.00 It'll Be Alright on the Night 10.00 Rising Damp Forever 11.05 FILM: Good Will Hunting (1997) (15) Drama, with Matt Damon. 12.05 FYI Daily 12.10 FILM: Good Will Hunting (1997) (15) Concluded. 1.35 Inspector Morse 3.25 May the Best House Win 5.05 On the Buses 5.35 ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Revolution and Romance: Musical Masters of the 19th Century 8.00 Classic Quartets at the BBC 9.00 Heimat Home from Home: Chronicle of a Vision - Part One 10.40 Heimat Home from Home: Chronicle of a Vision - Part Two 12.40 The Century That Wrote Itself 1.40 How to Get Ahead: At Medieval Court 2.40 Classic Quartets at the BBC 3.40 Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Melissa & Joey 6.45 Baby Daddy 7.45 How I Met Your Mother 8.40 Hollyoaks 11.15 FILM: Space Chimps (2008) (U) Animated sci-fi comedy, with the voice of Andy Samberg. 12.55 Made in Chelsea Does Come Dine with Me 2.00 Black-ish 2.30 The Goldbergs 4.00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 5.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.00

FILM: Addams Family Values (1993) (PG) Comedy sequel, starring Anjelica Huston and Raul Julia. 9.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 10.00 FILM: Die Hard 2 (1990) (18) Action thriller sequel, starring Bruce Willis. 12.25 Tattoo Fixers 1.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 2.30 Gap Year 3.15 Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Come Dine with Me 11.30 Walks with My Dog 12.30 Vet on the Hill 1.35 Homes by the Med 2.35 Four in a Bed 5.20 Come Dine with Me 8.00 Nazi Megastructures 9.00 Father Ted 10.05 Man Down 11.05 24 Hours in A&E 12.10 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA 1.10 Man Down 2.10 Nazi Megastructures 3.10 Food Unwrapped 3.40 Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Tooth (2004) (U) Children's fantasy adventure, starring Yasmine Paige. 1.00 Vice Versa (1988) (PG) Fantasy comedy, starring Judge Reinhold and Fred Savage. 2.55 Carry On Jack (1963) (PG) Comedy, with Bernard Cribbins. 4.45 Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (2013) (PG) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Logan Lerman. 6.50 My Sister's Keeper (2009) (12) Drama, starring Cameron Diaz. 9.00 Legion (2010) (15) Action fantasy, starring Paul Bettany. 11.00 Hanna (2011) (12) Action thriller, starring Saoirse Ronan. 1.10 Leaves of Grass (2009) (15) Comedy drama, starring Edward Norton. 3.20 Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Top Gear 9.00 Red Bull Soapbox: Mumbai 10.00 Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge 11.00 Traffic Cops 1.00 Lizard Lick Towing 2.00 Top Gear 5.00 Red Bull Soapbox: Mumbai 6.00 Top Gear 7.00 Traffic Cops 8.00 Cops UK: Bodycam Squad 9.00 Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You 10.00 QI 11.00 Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish 12.00 Crackanory 12.30 Mock the Week 1.10 Mock the Week Christmas Special 1.50 The Last Man on Earth 2.45 Parks and Recreation 4.00 Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.00 Last Tango in Halifax 8.00 The Bill 12.00 Pride and Prejudice 7.00 New Tricks 9.00 Silent Witness 11.10 Spooks 1.50 The Ruby in the Smoke 3.35 Garden Hopping 4.00 Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power 7.00 Modern Family 10.00

Supergirl 11.00 The Flash 12.00 WWE Raw Hits 1.00 Live Nissan Super Sunday. Pre-match build-up to Tottenham Hotspur v Southampton. 2.15 Futurama: Welcome to the World of Tomorrow 2.30 Modern Family 4.00 The Simpsons 5.00 Greatest Disney Songs 6.00 The Simpsons 8.00 Wild Things 9.00 Hawaii Five-0 10.00 NCIS: Los Angeles 11.00 MacGyver 12.00 The Force: Essex 1.00 Air Ambulance ER 2.00 Police 10/7 5.30 Futurama

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing 11.00 Without a Trace 4.00 Blue Bloods 9.00 Big Little Lies 10.00 Real Time with Bill Maher 11.10 Fortitude 12.10 Billions 1.20 The Wire 3.25 Veep 4.00 Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets

W SKY: 109

6.00 Beauty and the Beast 6.40 Your Home in Their Hands 8.00 Choccywoccydoodah 8.30 Celebrity MasterChef 1.00 Dynamo: Magician Impossible 2.00 Doctor Who 4.00 My Family 6.00 Outnumbered 8.00 Honey I Bought the House 9.00 John Bishop: In Conversation with Lindsay Lohan 10.00 The C Word 12.00 Code Black 12.55 Outnumbered 1.30 The Musketeers 2.35 Betty White's Off Their Rockers 3.00 Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers 7.50 The Two Ronnies 9.20 Only Fools and Horses 12.50 Boomerang 1.20 Only Fools and Horses 9.00 I'm Alan Partridge 11.00 Psychoville 2 12.20 Limmy's Show 1.40 Psychoville 2 2.50 Jam 4.00 Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Premier League Highlights 9.30 The Sunday Supplement 11.00 Goals on Sunday 1.00 Live Nissan Super Sunday. Pre-match build-up to Tottenham Hotspur v Southampton. 2.15 Live Nissan Super Sunday, Tottenham Hotspur v Southampton (kick-off 2.15pm). 4.00 Live Nissan Super Sunday. Manchester City v Liverpool (kick-off 4.30pm). 7.00 ATP Masters Tennis 8.00 Live ATP Masters Tennis. The BNP Paribas Open final 10.30 Premier League Highlights 11.00 Goals on Sunday 12.00 Premier League Highlights 1.00 Sky Sports Boxing Gold 2.00 Fight Night 5.00 Goals on Sunday



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£350,000

VILLAGE LOCATION



An opportunity that rarely becomes available to purchase a three bedroom semi detached property situated on a quiet cul de sac in the highly sought after village Brill.

Southwold

£200,000

NEW INSTRUCTION



Situated in the sought after Southwold development. A one bedroom home offering a fitted kitchen, enclosed gardens & parking to front.

Southwold

£230,000

PRICE REDUCTION



Situated on the sought after Southwold development a two double bedroom terraced property with feature dome porch, conservatory, parking and garden.

Edgcott

£595,000

VILLAGE LOCATION



Situated in the Buckinghamshire village of Edgcott an impressive four double bedroom detached property offering three reception rooms, two bathrooms, open fire, double garage. Sitting within approximately a third of an acre plot.

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Middleton Cheney **£599,995**



Home of the Week To Include Flooring Throughout
Five Double Bedrooms Three Ensuites
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Last Remaining Plot

Banbury **£120,000**



EPC D
One Bedroom
First Floor Apartment
Well Maintained Throughout
Off Street Parking

Banbury **£230,000**



EPC Awaited
Three Bedrooms
Semi Detached
Spacious Kitchen/Diner
Popular Location
Spacious Living Room

Banbury **£210,000**



EPC F
Three Bedrooms
Semi Detached
Driveway
Spacious Living Area

Middleton Cheney **£550,000**



EPC C
Five Bedrooms Detached
South Facing Garden
Countryside Views
Village Location
No Onward Chain

Banbury **£250,000**



EPC D
Sought After Village
Close To Local Amenities
Corner Plot
Walk In Shower Room

Middleton Cheney **£460,000**



Four Bedroom Detached Family Home
Two Bathrooms
Two Receptions
Sought After Village Location
Built By David Wilson Homes

Banbury **£239,995**



EPC B
Semi Detached
Three Bedrooms
Off Street Parking
Garage

Banbury **£240,000**



EPC Awaited
Timms Estate
Semi Detached
Driveway

Ribston Close **£279,950**

EPC Rating: C
DETACHED Three Bedroom home
Large South facing Rear Garden
No Onward Chain

Angelica Close **£289,950**

EPC Rating: TBC
Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Home
Double doors to the rear garden
Master bedroom with En-Suite
Separate reception room
Garage

Thyme Close **£325,000**

EPC Rating: TBC
Good size three bedroom home
Popular design with Conservatory
Good size lounge & Kitchen/dining room
NO CHAIN

Lord Fielding Close **£325,000**

EPC Rating: C
Lounge with additional Large Family room
Upward Chain Complete
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CARTERTON

SHILTON PARK £179,950



This property comprises of two bedrooms, a family bathroom and open plan living dining area. There is also a separate kitchen. There is one allocated parking space and visitor bays.

SHILTON PARK £180,000



This superb two bedroom apartment comprises of two double bedrooms one with an ensuite, bathroom, kitchen, open plan lounge diner and outside the apartment has allocated parking.

SHILTON PARK £195,000



This property comprises of a living area, separate kitchen, family bathroom, two bedrooms and ensuite to master. Outside there is allocated parking.

SHILTON PARK £239,950



Large maisonette offering two large double bedrooms, a large open plan kitchen/diner, lounge, family bathroom and a single garage to the side with allocated parking to front.

SHILTON PARK £295,000



This fabulous three bedroom mid-terrace family house comprises of a cloakroom, kitchen/diner, family room, private lounge, three bedrooms, ensuite and a family bathroom.

SHILTON PARK £305,000



A beautifully presented end of terrace family home situated in the popular Shilton park development. Offering spacious living.

SHILTON PARK £309,500



This stunning three bedroom three storey terraced house comprises of three double bedrooms, a family bathroom, living/dining room, quality fitted kitchen and conservatory.

SHILTON PARK £539,950



Connells are delighted to present to the market this exceptional five bedroom detached family home. Oozing luxury and versatility throughout this property is a MUST FOR VIEWING.

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Fantastic three bedroom family home with carport and parking. This desirable development is in the popular market town of WITNEY.

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Plot 24, Witney

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Plot 17, Witney

£379,996

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APRIL 2017!

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Plot 18, Witney

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Plot 15, Witney

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Fantastic three bedroom dual aspect family home with carport and parking. This desirable development is in the popular market town of WITNEY.

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Plot 2, Witney

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Littlemore

£325,000



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Blackbird Leys **Guide Price £300,000**



Situated near local shops, leisure centre/swimming pool and bus stop this THREE bedroom family home has been UPDATED THROUGHOUT to a high standard, so if you are just looking to move in and live in style this is a must view property but come and see for yourself call the sales team on 01865 748448. EPC Rating: D

Blackbird Leys **Guide Price £310,000**



Extended To The Rear Four bedrooms White Bathroom Suite With Corner Bath Plus Separate Shower Cubicle Garage & Parking WELL PRESENTED Throughout Gas Central Heated Double Glazed Close To Local Shops & Leisure Centre Excellent Bus Route To Oxford City Ideal Family Home EPC Rating: D

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60 Between Towns Road



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OXFORD

Littlemore

£385,000

Well-presented TOWN HOUSE situated in a desirable cul-de-sac. The property incorporates an integral garage, bedroom and bathroom to ground floor, offering the prospect of a self-contained unit (subject to usual planning conditions).

EPC Rating: Awaited

COWLEY

£150,000

This TWO BEDROOM flat is located in the heart of Cowley centre giving immediate access to the local shops and bus service to the centre of Oxford. This spacious flat gives a FANTASTIC RENTAL YIELD to investors plus the flat is offered to the market with no onward chain. CASH BUYERS ONLY...!!

EPC Rating: Awaited

Temple Cowley **Offers in Excess £320,000**

TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM end of terraced located which has been EXTENDED to the front making the lounge/dining room a generous 24 ft in length. Garage in a block plus gated side access into the rear garden.

EPC Rating: D

Blackbird Leys **Offers in Excess £325,000**

BEAUTIFULLY presented property with potential to extend over the garage (subject to planning). The property offers parking, rear garden, lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom and three bedrooms.

EPC Rating: C

Cowley

£350,000

Offered with NO ONWARD CHAIN with potential to extend (subject to planning). The property offers two reception rooms, kitchen, three good sized bedrooms and bathroom. Parking to front, rear garden with side access.

EPC Rating: Awaited

Rose Hill

Offers in Excess £200,000

A STUNNING one bedroom GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT presented to an excellent standard. MODERN open plan living room to fitted kitchen with appliances included.

EPC Rating: B

Oxford

£360,000

A DELIGHTFUL period property within walking distance to Oxford City and offered with 'no onward chain'. Situated in a Cul-De-Sac the property allows easy access to amenities while remaining privately positioned at the end of the street.

EPC Rating: E

Cowley

£350,000

The property is in need of cosmetic refurbishment, offered with parking and garage and further benefitting from No ONWARD CHAIN.

EPC Rating: Awaited

Cowley

Offers in Excess £260,000

An ATTRACTIVE two bedroom 1st floor apartment situated within the Ring Road in the very well sought after development, Beauchamp Place which is within walking distance to Templars Shopping Centre. Ideal for first time buyers.

EPC Rating: C

Connells

Headington

£500,000

A rare opportunity to purchase a detached bungalow in the highly sought after York Avenue. Close to the amenities of central Headington with good transport links to both Oxford and London

Yarnton

£155,000

A fantastic development for the over 55's. A shared ownership (75% Share) apartment situated in the tranquil village of Yarnton. This development comprises of facilities such as: An in-house Restaurant, Hairdresser, Residents Lounge and Hobby Room.

Marston

£475,000

Providing easy access to both Headington hospitals and Oxford city centre this house would make an ideal family home or investment opportunity

Headington

£550,000

Just a ten minute walk from the John Radcliffe hospital and with excellent transport links into Oxford centre this well presented property offers flexible, well balanced accommodation and would make an ideal family home or investment opportunity

Headington

£475,000

Ideally located for access to the John Radcliffe Hospital and with excellent transport links into Oxford city centre this semi-detached property has off road parking and two reception rooms. In the popular Cherwell School catchment area this would make an ideal family home or investment

Yarnton

OIE £310,000

This modern, well presented property is located in the sought after village of Yarnton. Benefiting from off road parking and an enclosed rear garden, an ideal opportunity for a first time buyer or investor. Approximate ten minute drive from Oxford Parkway.

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HEADINGTON

Risinghurst

Guide Price £450,000

This substantially extended detached property is located in the sought after area of Risinghurst. With high ceilings and original features including picture rails, open fireplaces and stripped pine floors throughout this house is an ideal investment opportunity

Yarnton

£60,000

A beautifully presented apartment in this exclusive development for the over 55s. With under floor heating throughout and open plan living space this shared ownership home (25%) also has access to communal gardens, laundry facilities and an on site restaurant and hairdresser

Headington

OIRO £425,000

Situated within the highly regarded gated community Dorchester Close, a well presented 3 bed duplex apartment featuring ground floor bedrooms and first floor kitchen and reception rooms.

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THAME

Brill

£600,000

A fabulous 3 bedroom detached period cottage that has been extensively modernised, upgraded and extended by the current owners to create a quintessential cottage in the country in this sought after local village. This charming home combines contemporary living with an old English village feel and offers a wealth of features.

Chinnor

£530,000

A mature five bedroom detached family home that has been successfully extended in a location with manicured corner plot gardens that enjoy a southerly aspect.

Long Crendon

£375,000

This mature three bedroom detached family home offers spacious and airy accommodation and is centrally located within the popular village of Long Crendon. Prospective purchasers should note that no onward chain is involved and that the owners selling agents can strongly advise an early internal inspection.

Waterstock

£700,000

Lovingly refurbished and maintained by its current owner, the property is offered for sale with; a "farmhouse" kitchen, two well proportioned reception rooms, feature fireplace, exposed beams, mature and enclosed gardens along with off street parking.

Thame

£575,000

A four bedroom detached family home located in a small cul-de-sac of similar properties on this popular residential development. The property offers larger than average accommodation with separate reception rooms, full en-suite bathroom along with a south facing rear garden and a double width garage.

Haddenham

£525,000

This spacious accommodation is arranged over 3 floors, with en-suite shower rooms to 2 of the bedrooms along with attached garage and enclosed rear garden. Prospective purchasers will note that no onward chain is involved with the purchase of the property.

Thame

£450,000

This lovely family home has been newly extended and renovated to a high internal specification by a local builder, using local craftsmen and is offered for sale with no onward chain.

Thame

£489,950

JUST RELEASED PLOT 83, THE EWELME. A BRAND NEW STUNNING 3 BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE BY BELLWAY HOMES ON THE HAMPDEN GARDENS DEVELOPMENT IN THAME. CALL CONNELLS NOW ON 01844 260000 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Thame

£489,950

JUST RELEASED PLOT 93, THE WESLEY. A BRAND NEW STUNNING 3 BEDROOM LINK DETACHED HOUSE BY BELLWAY HOMES ON THE HAMPDEN GARDENS DEVELOPMENT IN THAME. CALL CONNELLS NOW ON 01844 260000 FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Healthy outlook for property market in city

Bill Cooper, co-author of *The Oxford Property Blog* and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford

Over the last 12 months the total value of Oxford property sold was £1.4bn. There were 3,216 completed transactions which was 11% down on the prior 12-month period.

20% of the properties sold were flats with an average sale price of £274,863; the remainder were houses with an average sale price of £443,755. Overall, the average achieved sales price was £403,165 which was 11% up on the prior 12-month period. The highest valued flat sold for £1.65m and, the highest value house sold for £9.75m.

Over the last three months all highest value transactions have been in OX2 with the top three being on Pullens Lane - £4.75m, Crick Road £3.55m and, Hids Copse Road - £2.9m. The total value of transactions during this period was £337m of which 16% were flats and just 2% were new build.

Historically, when transaction volumes fall, so too do achieved prices. In Oxford average achieved prices have not yet reduced despite a significant 11.1% fall in transaction volumes. Over the same period transaction volumes across SE England have fallen by 9.4% and across England & Wales by just 1.5%.

By property type prices are up across Oxford, flats have risen by 14% to an average of £274,863 which is well above the £190,103 average for the South-East of England. Terraced houses (up 7% to £380,743 vs. £263,129 across the SE) and semi-detached houses (up 2% to £401,430 vs. £321,256 across the SE) have risen at a lower rate than the SE average, whilst detached homes have matched the rise across the SE (up 8% to £614,527 vs. £496,528 across the SE).

Overall Oxford property has continued to offer current owners strong return on investment, whilst presenting buyers with a higher cost of entry. To date, the market has shown resilience in the face of lower transaction volumes, suggesting demand still outstrips supply.

For insights and opinion about the Oxford Property Market visit: www.OxfordPropertyBlog.co.uk

Picture perfect cottage in village location



kitchen with central Rayburn, utility room and cloakroom complete the ground floor.

The stairs lead to the intriguing landing providing the four double bedrooms, the master bedroom boasts an en suite with a family bathroom serving the remaining three bedrooms.

Enclosed front gardens with side access whilst the rear garden provides an upper lawn area, the main patio area offers an ideal entertaining area with a part covered section to the rear of the garden store.

The Thameside village of Culham comprises a pretty village green, primary school, parish church and the European School.

Communications are excellent, with access into Oxford via the A4074. Didcot mainline station is four miles away, with regular services to London Paddington in approximately 55 minutes.

Daily shopping requirements and supermarkets can be found in the nearby bustling market town of Abingdon, just two miles away.



To book an appointment or to receive further details contact selling agent Breckon & Breckon Abingdon 01235 550550 or visit www.breckon.co.uk



A piece of history with thoughtful modern touches



Windrush Cottage is a handsome detached Victorian property dating back to the 1830's. The property has been thoughtfully improved and extended over time with much of the renovation work being carried out in recent years. The house is beautifully presented and has been transformed by the current owners into a welcoming family home.

The versatile accommodation is arranged over two floors. On the ground floor there are two suitably sized reception rooms, both with attractive fireplaces; an additional room is currently utilised as a study. The stunning open plan kitchen diner can be found to the rear; beautifully appointed with two sets of triple bi-fold doors leading onto the patio and private garden beyond. This spacious light filled room benefits from extensive hand built units with integrated appliances under a granite work-surface. There's a large impressive central island housing base units, an induction hob and double electric oven; in addition is a fully refurbished electric Aga. A utility room and two cloakrooms complete the ground floor accommodation.

The stairs rise from the elegant hallway to the first floor landing with doors leading to four of the double bedrooms, two of which benefit from en suite Jack and Jill bathrooms. The fifth bedroom and a third bathroom can be accessed via a second staircase giving potential to provide separate annexe accommodation if required. The private garden extends to approximately an acre and is enclosed by mature hedging and timber fencing. Although predominantly laid to lawn the garden is pleasantly zoned to include a patio area, a generous vegetable plot with fruit trees, fenced outdoor pool, and secluded composting area. Outbuildings include a double garage, useful large workshop/chicken shed and additional brick built building next to the main house which has potential for conversion subject to the necessary consent.

Windrush Cottage, Faringdon Road, Southmoor, Abingdon, OX13 5BJ
Carta Jonas - 5 bedroom house £1,050,000

Andrews Abingdon

Abingdon
01235 888393

Andrews 



Drayton £285,000
Unique and filled with character features, this two bedroom home enjoys all of the advantages of village living. EPC Rating E



Abingdon £305,000
North Abingdon three bedroom home perfect for families, situated 2 miles from Thomas Reade and Rush Common Primary Schools. EPC Rating C.



Abingdon £215,000
A light, welcoming one bed ground floor apartment in Thames View, popular for its proximity to Abingdon Centre within 0.5 miles. EPC Rating B.



Abingdon £239,950
This one bedroom home offers a cosy retreat from the hustle and bustle whilst being within a mile of Abingdon town centre. EPC Rating E.



Abingdon £200,000
Charming one bedroom flat in a bright period conversion located less than a third of a mile from Albert Park. EPC Rating D.



North Abingdon £270,000
Located in this cul-de-sac position is this two bedroom home with an enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating C.



Abingdon £165,000
A well presented first floor studio apartment situated within 1.5 miles of Abingdon town centre. EPC Rating E



Longworth £400,000
4 bed semi-detached home in the village of Longworth. Recently extended with character features and stunning country views. EPC Rating D.



Longworth £750,000
An attractive and contemporary detached period home offering flexible accommodation situated within the village of Longworth. EPC Rating E.



Abingdon £235,000
A superb one bedroom house presented to a high standard throughout with the benefits of a conservatory, garden and parking. EPC Rating C



Abingdon £375,000
This family home will appeal to those looking for a house which offers a no through road position, at the end of a cul-de-sac. EPC Rating C.



Sutton Courtenay £390,000
'Landscaped to incorporate flower beds, mature trees and carefully placed patio areas to best enjoy sunny afternoons' EPC Rating C.

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Abingdon

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Abingdon

£785 pcm

A well presented one double bedroom house in a quiet residential location. Unfurnished. Available 18th April.



Abingdon

£685 pcm

A en-suite bedroom in this modern apartment block. Private shower room, shared communal kitchen. Rent includes utilities. Furnished. Available Immediately.



NEW



This stunning apartment in the Old Gaol is an exciting and unique opportunity to live in an exclusive development in the heart of Abingdon-on-Thames. Two Bedrooms one with en-suite shower room, open plan kitchen/living room, bathroom, secure underground parking and access to the residents only gym. Available 7th April.

£1,400 pcm



NEW



Abingdon

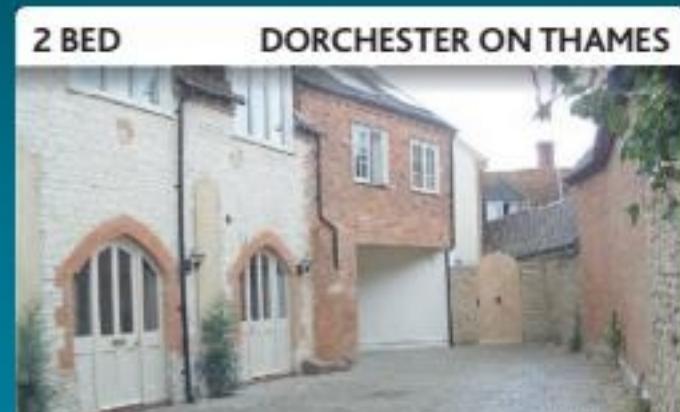
£925 pcm

A delightful ground floor apartment perfectly located for the Abingdon Business Park, Fairacres Retail Park and offering great access to the A34. Private entrance, two bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bathroom. Neutral decor throughout. Allocated parking. Communal garden. Unfurnished. Available 12th April



Contact our Abingdon Lettings office

MARTIN&CO



2 BED DORCHESTER ON THAMES



3 BED ABINGDON

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£1,325 PCM



1 BED ABINGDON



2 BED ABINGDON TOWN CENTRE

A ONE BEDROOM HOUSE located in a desirable residential area in NORTH ABINGDON. The property is located with good access for the A34.

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£975 PCM

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3 BED MARCHAM

**SOLD ON 1ST
VIEWING**
This mid-terrace 3 bedroom family home in need of modernisation located in the tranquil Marcham village, 2.5 miles from Abingdon town.

£275,000



3 BED CHALGROVE

**PRICE
REDUCTION**
This fabulous three bed SEMI DETACHED house CHALGROVE offers spacious living and benefits from a garage and garden. The property comes with gas central heating, new gas boiler, and can be offered with no onward chain.

£328,000



3 BED ABINGDON

A 3 Bedroom semi-detached HOUSE situated close to ABINGDON town centre. The property is offered in an immaculate condition. The property offers off street parking. Internal viewings advised!

£290,000



1 BED ABINGDON

One bedroom RETIREMENT apartment with beautiful communal gardens and close to ABINGDON TOWN CENTRE. Situated on the 2nd floor and has access to a residents lounge and laundry facilities, with lift access.

£145,000

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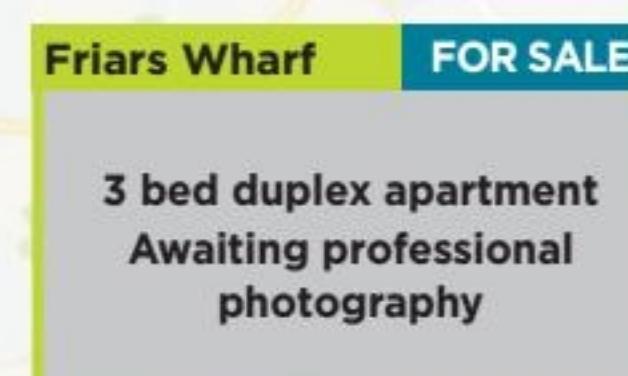
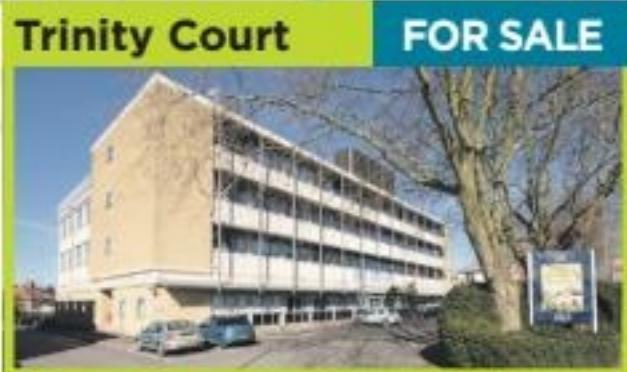
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Mr A M-G – Wantage



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OXON, SN7 8QS
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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Songs to save your life

By James Richings

The end of the world is nearly on us, the human race is almost extinct and everyone is panicking.

What should you do? – Sing of course. Songs for the End of the World arrives at the Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot.

Described as 'gig-theatre', the show tells the story of Jim Walters, a hapless astronaut, who is shot off in a rocket to be the first man on Mars, but gets stuck in Earth Orbit on the day of the apocalypse.

Restricted, Jim decides to write songs for the end of the world, in case anyone might be listening.

Dom Coyote, who plays Jim in the production, told the *Guardian*: "It's not really a musical but instead gig-theatre which has a really different feel.

"It's a gig, a live band on stage, that all become characters in a story.

"And I hope the audience might think about the world we are living in right now, how we might change it for the better, and cherish what we have."

Making its debut at the Station Road venue on Saturday, March 25, the production was written by friends Dom Coyote, Michael Vale and Tom Penn with the music for the show being

provided by multi-instrumental band The Bloodmoneys.

The show was inspired by Philip K Dick's post-apocalyptic novel Dr Bloodmoney which was first published in 1965, and with the production also paying homage to Ziggy Stardust and 50s rock n' roll, Dom insists this is a show that cannot be missed.

"The cocktail of explosive story and characters is what you can expect," he said.

"The Bloodmoneys are an amazing live band and they'll play an epic rock gig which will be unique.

"You definitely won't have seen anything like this before."

When it came to choosing his favourite song from the show, Dom opted for Dear Old World saying it "is really the stand-out track as it's an anthem for hope.

"We take inspirations from old rock n roll and the whole thing has a 50's quality to it, but mixed with a really contemporary sound."

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost from £12 to £15.

Gig theatre Songs for the End of the World is at the Cornerstone on Saturday next week



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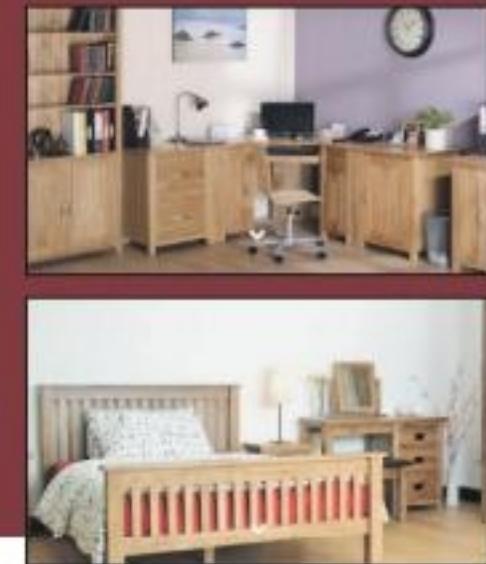
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Fabulous Fawesome

MUSIC: Covers band Fawesome are will be gigging at The Black Horse in Kidlington on Saturday, March 25.

The quartet arrive at the pub in Banbury Road to perform tunes from ZZ Top, Bon Jovi and many more.

The free gig starts at 9.30pm.

A grape night out

WINE TASTING: A session will take place at the Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot on Friday, March 24.

Tom Whitehouse from The Oxford Company comes to the Station Road venue with his fine selection of varieties, where tasters can find out which wines suit their palates.

It starts at 6.30pm and tickets cost £12.

Always wrong?

COMEDY: Jo Caulfield will be at The Mill Arts in Banbury on Friday, March 31.

The 51-year-old arrives at the Spiceball Park venue with her The Customer is Always Wrong show.

She is best known for her appearances on the comedy panel show *Mock the Week*.

Tickets cost £15 and the gig will start at 8pm.

ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Bucking social conventions

By James Richings

IT'S the day every man dreads, meeting your girlfriend's dad.

You don't want to say the wrong thing, you want to look presentable and you want to sound ambitious.

But when everyone starts giving you their two pence worth, you start to doubt yourself and your first meeting inevitably goes wrong.

So find out what happens when Black Comedy arrives at the BT Studio.

George Lea, who plays Brinsley, the unlucky sculptor told the Guardian: "The story looks at an opportunistic young sculptor trying to make his way through one of the most important evenings of his life.

"He has somehow to meet both his militaristic future father in law and a millionaire arts patron who could make his career.

"Through stolen furniture, drunk neighbours and unwelcome visitors, it goes on to plot the descent into chaos."

Even though George has acted at the BT Studio in numerous productions since 2014, the actor hinted that occasionally, nerves and anxiety could appear when performing in a new play.

However, George is confident the play's strong storyline along with his experience of being a regular at the

theatre could help him flourish next weekend.

"A lot of people like just being on stage," he said. "It's narcissistic, but having audiences simply appreciate you as an actor is thrilling.

"Under that, maybe less with a piece like this, there's being lucky enough to share the writer's world you've worked so hard to create with other people.

He added: "Black Comedy is an exploration of manners and social conventions, and how all of that comes undone when the lights are out.

"There could be a parallel between blithe optimism blindly walking into disaster and modern politics, but I think for my character 'never get engaged six weeks after a breakup,' is more pervasive.

"And I love that feeling when you get audience members who aren't your friends or parents, who might have nothing to do with you and will watch it like a proper show."

The play is at the Beaumont Street venue from Friday, March 24 to Saturday, March 25 and will be performed by students at the Magdalen College School.

Tickets cost £7 with the evening shows starting at 7.30pm.

A matinée performance will start at 2.30pm on Saturday.



Goldfrapp are back

MUSIC: EDM duo Goldfrapp will gig at the O2 Academy on Monday, March 20.

Made up of Alison Goldfrapp and Will Gregory, the twosome will perform tracks off their seven studio albums, which includes tunes off their latest record Silver Eye, which comes out on March 31.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £27.50.

Tackling Fences

FILM: The multi-award winning film Fences will be screened at the Chipping Norton Theatre on Sunday, March 26.

Starring Denzel Washington and Viola Davis, the movie looks at two black parents bringing up their troubled sons in 1950s Pittsburgh.

Tickets cost from £5 to £8.50.

Waves crash in

MUSIC: Indie rock band Circa Waves will be at the O2 Academy on Saturday, March 25.

The four-piece from Liverpool will perform tracks off their new album Different Creatures.

Doors open at 6.30pm and tickets cost £17.05.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Exposing nature's cheats

By James Richings

FROM cheating cuckoos to ant-mimicking spiders, there's a lot to learn about insects when Cheats and Deceits arrive at the Oxford Playhouse.

Organised by Science Oxford, the family fun event will feature ecologist Martin Stevens explaining how deception works in nature and how devious animals and plants can be.

And with this talk aimed at parents and children, Martin thinks the event will benefit everyone who attends.

"It's great to know that people still find time to appreciate the natural world," Martin told the Guardian.

"Science in the hectic world we live in, and that there is a passion to understand and learn about how nature works.

"On the day, you can earn about how remarkable and sophisticated deception is in nature, and the science and early explorers that has uncovered its secrets.

"You'll learn a lot about how deception works in nature, evolves, and how it has been studied by scientists and naturalists.

"And with Cheats and Deceits coming to Oxford for the first time, it's really exciting to be coming here and meeting a whole new audience."



As well as hosting the talk, Martin is also the Associate Professor in Sensory and Evolutionary Ecology at Exeter University.

He is also the Director of Impact Biosciences, an organisation that researchers across many areas which includes conservation strategies and river management.

But even though his day job might sound a bit complicated to us normal Joes, ecology is something that has interested him since he was a child.

And nothing gives him more satisfaction than sharing the knowledge

he's learnt onto other biology enthusiasts. Spiders, butterflies and ants will be some of the insects Martin will talk about.

"I have always been inspired by nature since a young child," he said.

"I would explore the garden, parks, and countryside around where I grew up – how could anyone not be inspired by nature when they have the opportunity to witness it and learn about it?

"I'm truly lucky that my passion is also my job."

It will begin at 5pm and tickets cost £7.



New kid in town

MUSIC: Singer-songwriter Declan McKenna will be at the O2 Academy on Tuesday, March 21.

The 18-year-old arrives at the Cowley Road venue to perform tunes off his two EPs *Stains* and *Liars*.

Tickets cost £9.56 and doors open at 7pm.

Italian classic

THEATRE: The stage adaptation of Italian movie *La Strada* will be performed at the Oxford Playhouse from Monday, March 20 to Saturday, March 25.

The film, which was released in 1954 looks at Gelsomina, who is sold by her penniless mother to Zampano, a travelling sideshow strongman, where the two travel through the Italian countryside performing for their keep.

The film won an Oscar. Tickets cost from £11.50 to £28.

The magic of Miller

MUSIC: The Glenn Miller Orchestra will be at the New Theatre on Sunday, March 19.

The show will follow the life of the famous big band leader Glenn Miller, who died in 1944 aged 40.

It will begin at 3pm and tickets cost from £27.65 to £33.65.

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Thu, Mar 16, 7.45pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton

THE GREAT BRITISH TAKE OFF

Jon Culshaw and Bill Dare Join us for an evening of hilarity as Dead Ringers creator and producer Bill Dare is in conversation with the mighty impressionist Jon Culshaw. A night of utterly spontaneous unscripted observations, recollections and character collections.

Fri, Mar 17, 5pm
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford

CHEATS AND DECEITS

From cheating cuckoos to ant mimicking spiders, the natural world is full of hustlers. Creatures of all shapes and sizes, who are out to lure unsuspecting prey, coerce potential mates and avoid attack from predators.

Fri, Mar 17, 7.45pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton

I'M SORRY, I'LL READ THAT AGAIN... AGAIN!

This knockout show celebrates the radio series that gave birth to The Goodies and Monty Python's Flying Circus - not to mention I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue. Stand by for wicked parodies, glorious puns and manic songs. It's full-frontal radio, live on stage - with the unmistakable strains of the Angus Prune Tune

and the unavoidable smells of the Rhubarb Tart of Omar Khayyam. *We are delighted to announce that the show in Chipping Norton will feature a special cameo appearance by original cast members and writer, Mr. Graeme Garden and Jo Kendall!*

Sat, Mar 18, 10.30am
The Theatre, Chipping Norton

SING

In this quirky animated musical from the makers of Despicable Me and Minions, a koala impresario stages a grand singing competition for the world's animals. The voices of Matthew McConaughey and Reese Witherspoon add to this veritable farmyard of fun.

Sat, Mar 18, 6.30pm
O2 Academy, Oxford

HALF MAN HALF BISCUIT

Half Man Half Biscuit are a truly genuine band, blessed with a magic capacity to make the most jaded of listeners fall back in love with music again. Witty and dry sardonic yet never clinical, melodically infectious yet edgy sing-along songs, these four lads who shook the Wirral are perhaps still to some extent and undiscovered national treasure.

Sat, Mar 18, 7.30pm
New Theatre, Oxford

RICK ASTLEY

Pop Icon and multi-million artist Rick Astley has announced a brand new 17 date tour for March and April 2017 performing classic tracks and songs from his new album '50' which came out last year. Expect to see a mix of old and new in Oxford.

Sun, Mar 19 - Thu, Mar 23

The Theatre, Chipping Norton

LOVING

Loving celebrates the real-life courage and commitment of an interracial couple, Richard and Mildred Loving (Joel Edgerton and Ruth Negga), who married and then spent the next nine years fighting for the right to live as a family in their hometown. Their civil rights case went all the way to the Supreme Court, which in 1967 reaffirmed the the right to marry. A timely and moving film.

Mon, Mar 20 7pm,
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford

GOLDFRAPP

The dynamic duo, Goldfrapp, will be bringing their electronic beats to the UK in March, with their first album in four years following shortly after. Catch their new single Anymore as well as all their hit songs when they perform at the O2 Academy Oxford.

Mon, Mar 20 - Sat, Mar 25

Oxford Playhouse, Oxford

LA STRADA

Federico Fellini's La Strada (The Road) is one of the true masterpieces of modern cinema, winning an Academy Award in 1957. This visually stunning new stage adaptation, directed by Olivier Award nominee Sally Cookson (Jane Eyre, Hetty Feather), boasts a beautiful score by Benji Bower, with songs performed live on stage by a multi-talented cast. The story of wide-eyed Gelsomina, who is sold by her penniless mother to Zampano, a travelling sideshow strongman, unfolds as they journey through the Italian countryside performing for their keep. Their perilous road trip leads them to a ragtag travelling circus where they meet Il Matto, the tightrope walker, who rekindles Gelsomina's spirit with a new found confidence. In this much-anticipated new stage production, Fellini's profoundly impassioned and deeply involving story is sure to stimulate the senses, fire your emotions and stir the soul.

Mon, Mar 20, 7.30pm

New Theatre, Oxford

JASPER CARROTT & ALISTAIR MCGOWAN

Comedy legends Jasper Carrott and Alistair McGowan split the bill and your sides with a night of comedy stand up and impressions. Drawing on their wealth of experience they present a show of pure laughter and entertainment that is not to be missed.

Tue, Mar 21, 7pm

O2 Academy, Oxford

THE WAILERS

Following the success of their huge sell-out tour last year, legendary reggae artists The Wailers return to mark to stages across the country. Performing their Legend album in its entirety, the group will also play other greatest hits including 'Three Little Birds', 'I Shot the Sheriff' and 'Jamming'.

Tue, Mar 21, 7pm

O2 Academy, Oxford

DECLAN MCKENNA

Hotly-tipped young Brit musician Declan McKenna supports his hotly-anticipated debut album with his latest UK tour

Thu, Mar 23, 7pm

O2 Academy, Oxford

BEAR'S DEN

Red Earth & Pouring Rain is the follow-up to Bear's Den's Ivor Novello-nominated 2014 debut, Islands. Building a huge fanbase through consistently stellar live shows, Red Earth & Pouring Rain sees the group taking huge leaps forward.

Fri, Mar 24, 6.30pm

Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot

WINE TASTING

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Fri, Mar 24, 6.30pm

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Reading and Leeds have confirmed Eminem as the final headliner for this year's festivals, taking place on 25 - 27 August 2017 at Richfield Avenue, Reading and Bramham Park, Leeds.

Consistently seen as one of the greatest rappers of all time, Eminem is not only a titan in hip-hop but in modern culture itself. One of the biggest selling artists of the 21st century, his razor-sharp wit and impeccable larger than life anthems continue to defy boundaries, with the likes of 'Lose Yourself', 'My Name Is', 'Not Afraid' and 'The Monster' all storming charts and record collections around the world. His return to Reading and Leeds marks an extremely rare opportunity to witness an icon in the flesh, with a set that'll add another legendary chapter to the story of Eminem.

Melvin Benn commented: "Eminem returning to Reading and Leeds is beyond exciting. His 2013 headline performance was incredible and I can't wait to have him back. In addition to our third and final headliner (joining Kasabian and Muse) we've announced over 70 additional acts to this year's line up - it's looking stronger than ever."

Fri, Mar 24, 7.30pm

New Theatre, Oxford

DREAMBOYS

If you're looking for the very best girls night out in the UK, look no further than these incredible striping hunks. An action packed 2 hour show from start to finish, these boys will literally have you begging for more!

Sat, Mar 25, 6.30pm

O2 Academy, Oxford

CIRCA WAVES

Don't miss indie rockers Circa Waves as they embark on their biggest headline tour to date. The band are set to play a string of unmissable live shows in support of their eagerly anticipated second album, Different Creatures.

Sat, Mar 25, 7.45pm

The Theatre, Chipping Norton

RICHARD HERRING: THE BEST

Richard Herring, King of the Edinburgh Fringe, Metro columnist and the UK's Podfather (RHLSTP, AIOTM) picks his favourite routines from his 12 one-man shows and

Tue, Mar 28, 7pm

O2 Academy, Oxford

WARPAINT

LA-based four-piece band Warpaint return to British shores as they continue to support their third album, 'Heads Up'.

Tue, Mar 28 - Sat, Apr 1

New Theatre, Oxford

GREASE

Dust off your leather jackets, pull on your bobby-socks and take a trip to a simpler time as Danny and Sandy fall in love all over again.

Mon, Apr 3 - Sat, Apr 8

Oxford Playhouse, Oxford

ABIGAIL'S PARTY

Amanda Abbington stars in Mike Leigh's undisputed classic, Abigail's Party. It's 40 years since the appalling Beverly first put Donna Summer on the turntable, stacked a plate with little cheesy-pineapple sticks, plied her guests with alcohol, cigarettes and Demis Roussos and slow-danced her way across the shag-pile into theatrical history. The drinks party from hell begins when she and husband Laurence invite round new neighbours, Tony and Angie, along with nervous divorcee Sue; jittery about the bash her teenage daughter, Abigail, is throwing up the road. As that party reportedly gets out of hand, this one too descends into chaos, and comedy, as drama and tragedy combine into an iconic piece of theatre.

Mon, Mar 27, 7pm

O2 Academy, Oxford

PULLED APART BY HORSES

Mon, Mar 27 - Mar 28
New Theatre, Oxford
JACK ROOKE: GOOD GRIEF
With a coffin full of sympathy snacks, Jack Rooke and his 85-year old Nan Sicely, invite you to the happiest town in Britain where Dad's dead and the only thing to eat is lasagne. Rooke's critically acclaimed debut hour blends comedy, storytelling and



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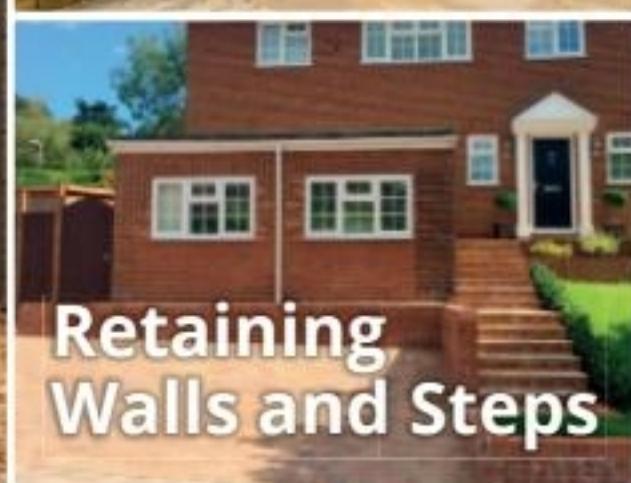
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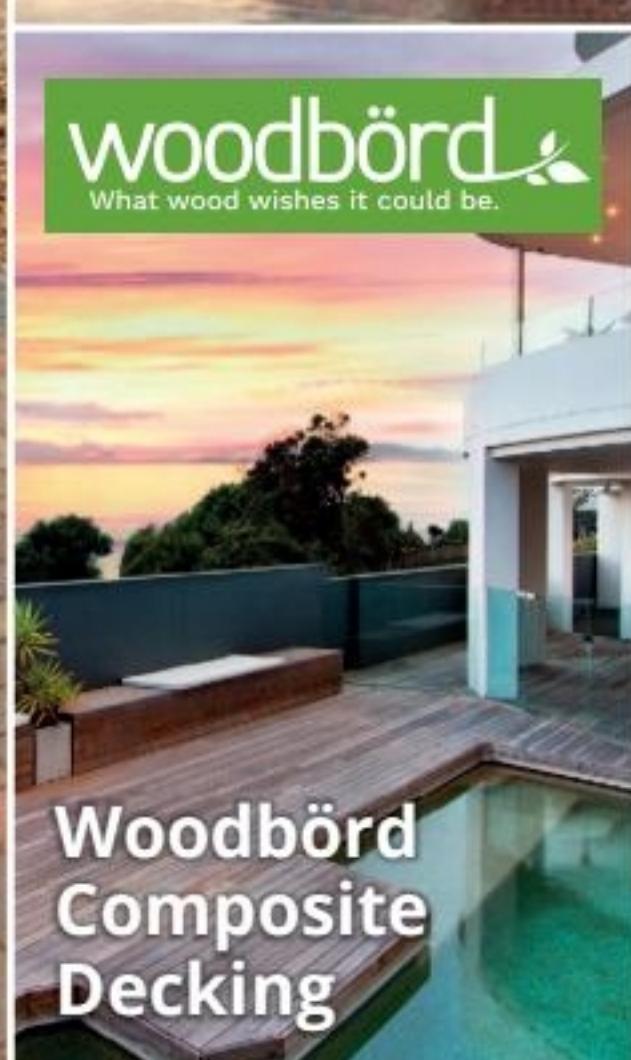
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Skoda Citigo – it's such a scream

By Tony Yates

SKODA has always put value for money at the forefront of everything they do, and in keeping with that, the Skoda Citigo is a small, value for money, city-friendly hatchback that is actually more sophisticated than most of its rivals and at a price that most of us looking for a small family car can easily afford.

Power and Efficiency

The Citigo I had on test had been fitted with a 1.0 MPi 60PS engine and is one of the best non turbo units I have come across in recent years.

Fuel consumption is around the 60mpg if you drive it without pushing too hard, and flat out you can expect to achieve a max speed of around 100mph and 0-62 time of around 14sec.

I know what you are all thinking though – is it slow? Well actually it nips around really well and it does not feel underpowered at all.



On the Road

The little Citigo is a scream – it's easy to drive and feels brilliant for such a small car, but you do need to

remember this is not a race car. It's an eco warrior that was designed to save you money as well as look good.

As for the handling – I would give it five stars because it's as good as the competition when the road gets twisty. Also, it's actually very quiet and quite refined. While the ride is a little bouncy, it's pretty decent really thanks mainly to Skoda doing a pretty good job on the suspension setup.

Safety and Technology

The safety side of the Citigo is impressive too – with standard equipment like anti-lock braking, driver's and front passenger's airbags and electronic stability

control. As with all Skodas the interior is a little bland – but functional – but I like the body coloured dash panel and the centre speedo which gives it a better feel all round. The seats are very good and hold you firm.

There is also an array of kit such as 15-inch auriga black alloy wheels, electric front windows, front fog lamps, manual air-conditioning, AM/FM radio including colour display with aux-in and SD card, USB ports, six speakers and Bluetooth, rear seat backrest split 60/40, remote central locking and sunset glass.

To Sum Up

It's a great little car for doing the school run and for all the times when you need to nip into town to do a little retail therapy.

There is no doubt in my mind that Citigo will live with you for a very long time and you will instantly replace it with another when the time is right.

To be honest it's like your secret little friend that will make you feel happy every time you turn the key to go off on another little adventure. Price from: £10,620 OTR

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23.03.17

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Colour: Silver
MOT: May 2017
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Miles: 49,500
MOT: Aug 2017
Colour: Met Black
Price: £5,695 ono

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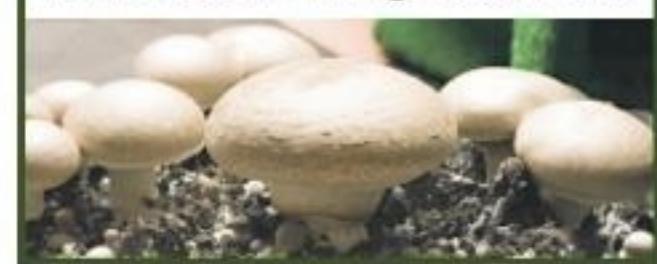
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Saints hope to rumble Thunder in season opener

American football

UNDEFEATED Division II 2016 champions Oxford Saints will open the new campaign at home to Sussex Thunder next month.

The British American Football Association (BAFA) have this week revealed all game dates for the Saints ahead of the season opener on April 16.

Following promotion to Division I at the end of the 2016 season, the Saints will now play in the Southern Football Conference Central I (SFC1) for 2017.

The conference includes the Ouse Valley Eagles, Solent Thrashers, South Wales Warriors and Sussex Thunder.

Each of the five teams will have a full 10 game season, with all games being played within the conference rather than cross-conference games.

This means the Saints will face two of their opponents three times, with Ouse Valley and Sussex being selected by BAFA.

The Tilsley Park side regular season comes to a close on July 30 when they host Ouse Valley.

Visit oxfordsaints.com for the full schedule.

Meanwhile, Oxford Saints Women won their first match in their first ever full contact game.

The Saints played two games in the Sapphire Tournament in Portsmouth at the end of last month, winning one and losing one.

They beat Iceni Spears 18-14 before being thrashed 43-0 against Portsmouth Dreadnoughts.

Eddie's dreams dashed in final round in India

Golf

A CATASTROPHIC final day dashed Eddie Pepperell's hope of winning his first European Tour title.

The Abingdon golfer, who hadn't won any prize money this season before last weekend, shared the lead at -6 after 11 holes of his third round at the weather-hit Hero India Open.

With delays to play, the 26-year-old resumed his third round on Sunday morning in disastrous fashion.

While rounds two and three heralded 11 birdies and only six bogeys, the Frilford Heath golfer's fine form was a thing of the past when he resumed his third round on hole 12.

Three bogeys and two double bogeys followed to finish the third round +1 and Pepperell plummeted down the leaderboard.

A further three bogeys and a double bogey alongside a solitary birdie meant Pepperell drifted away to +5 and a T22 place, although he survived the cut for the first time this season - at the fifth time of asking.

SSP Chawrasia was the runaway winner on -10, seven ahead of second placed Gavin Green to claim victory on home soil.

Send us your team news at news@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

F1

By Adam Flinn

OXFORDSHIRE'S Formula One teams are now in the final preparation stages ahead of the start of the season next weekend, following the completion of pre-season testing last Friday.

Williams, Renault and Haas have been pounding round the Catalunya track near Barcelona for eight days of testing as they tried out their 2017 machines for the first time.

And while all the teams faced a few problems at some point, Oxfordshire's representatives were all fairly happy with how things went.

Grove-based Williams were particularly impressive, with Felipe Massa and Lance Stroll completing 600 laps between them in the second week alone.

They also showed flashes of speed, although most commentators believe they will be behind the perceived front runners of Mercedes, Ferrari and Red Bull.

Rod Nelson, Williams' chief test and support engineer, said: "Overall, we have got a lot of good data.

"We've completed 600 laps last week, with the team doing a very good job to make up for the time we lost [the week before].

"We can take a lot of positives from this as we prepare to head to Melbourne."

Renault were also pleased with how testing went, with this year being the first in the modern era where they have designed the car from the outset.

The Enstone-based team spent the two weeks experimenting with different setups, improving performance and testing reliability with Nico Hulkenberg and Jolyon Palmer behind the wheel.

Managing director Cyril Abiteboul



Jolyon Palmer on track during the second pre-season test last week

Picture: Renault Sport Racing

County's teams ready for the off after testing

said: "This has been an exciting two weeks for everyone at Renault Sport Racing.

"We think we already have a good step forward with performance thanks to this car and the new power unit, and we know the areas we need to address.

"Melbourne is just around the corner and we can't wait to get this season under way."

And Banbury-based Haas had a much better test compared to this time 12 months ago after setting 715 laps, a whopping 241 more than last year.

While they suffered a few issues with the car on the final day on Friday, the team were satisfied with how things have gone overall in the past two weeks.

Team principal Guenther Steiner

said: "It was definitely not our best day on Friday, we had quite a few issues with the handling of the car.

"But all in all the test was pretty good.

"We now go back and analyse data, and see what we can do to get ready for Melbourne."

The first race of the season in Australia is on March 26, with 20 races over the course of 2017.

Blues lose 'arm wrestle'

Rugby League

COACH Tim Rumford has challenged his Oxford RL players to bounce back after they were beaten 20-6 at home to Workington Town on Sunday in the first ever meeting between the sides.

The visitors pulled away after a fairly even first half to inflict a first Kingstone Press League defeat on the Blues.

Oxford took the lead on six minutes through a Curtis Macdonald try, which was converted by Harvey Burnett.

The hosts were the better side for most of the first half but were unable to extend their lead and were made to pay when Workington, helped by four Super League players on loan or dual registration, fought back.

Rumford admitted that Town's try just before half time had a telling impact on the contest as an Ed Chamberlain try - converted by Carl Forber - levelled the match.

The visitors were too strong for Oxford and pulled away to victory with unanswered second half tries from Jack Higginson and Joe Hambley, followed by Forber conversions and a penalty 10 minutes from time to seal the win.

After the match, Oxford coach Rumford said that there was nothing wrong with his team's effort or



Curtis Macdonald scores for the Blues

Picture: @Oxford_RL

will but that decision making had let them down.

He said: "We have a young bunch of blokes. Decision-making by our players - and another individual that I can't say too much about - cost us today.

"We want to play expansively, but neither team were allowed to express themselves. We will find out if we've learnt those lessons next week at Whitehaven."

Workington boss Dave Clark described the match as "a game that was an arm wrestle for the full 80".

Stars face Raiders in play offs



Picture: @OxfordCityStars

Ice hockey

A DEFEAT and a draw in the last two regular league games of the season means Oxford City Stars will play London Raiders in the NIHL South 1 play-offs.

Oxford lost 4-3 at Solent Devils on Saturday before throwing away a 4-1 home lead to draw 4-4 with play-off opponents London Raiders on Sunday.

The results from the final weekend of the regular season left the Stars exactly in mid-table in fourth place on 28 points from 28 games.

The two-legged affair against Raiders, which takes place over the weekend of March 25/26, will be an exciting contest, if Sunday's match is anything to go by.

Oxford's Jesse Lye and London's

Alan Lack both scored in the first period to send the sides into the second period level.

Simon Anderson's front line turned up the heat in the second with three unanswered goals - Joshua Oliver, Alan Green and Ben Paynter all found the back of the net to give the Stars a 4-1 lead with 20 minutes to go.

But Oxford waved a white flag to their handsome lead as a Tom David brace and Lack's second of the evening with 11 seconds left on the clock earned the visitors a draw in dramatic fashion.

The winners of the Stars vs Raiders match will face the winner of the Chelmsford vs Bracknell tie in the semi-finals, to be played over the weekend of April 1/2.

The final will be played over the weekend of April 8/9.

Hoops spin out a late winner against Hawks

Oxford City

By George Welch

A LAST minute strike from veteran striker Jefferson Louis secured a dramatic 1-0 win for Oxford City at home to Whitehawk on Saturday.

Just as it looked like City were heading for only their second goalless draw of the season, the 38-year-old target man popped up to all but seal the three points in injury time.

The journeyman, who has been transferred 37 times in his 20-year-long career, was found unmarked in the area by midfielder Scott Davies and lifted the ball over the Hawks' keeper into the far corner of the net to maintain Mark Jones' unbeaten home record since taking charge in December.

The two bottom half of the table teams exchanged blows in an entertaining first half that saw both goalkeepers tested.

Unsighted City stopper Craig Hill had to be at his best to push a 30-yard Mike West effort wide, while Louis went closest for the Hoops four minutes before the break when he struck the post when one-on-one.

In complete contrast, the second half was a lot quieter with chances few and far between until Louis' last-gasp winner.

The victory moves the Hoops 15 points clear of the relegation zone and, with just nine league games



Jefferson Louis fires the winner home for Oxford City. Picture: Michael Allen

remaining, look to be all but safe from relegation, albeit still mathematically possible.

By avoiding defeat, the Hoops extended their unbeaten home record to six league games and Jones praised his players in what he described as an "important" win.

He said: "It was a good win for us today, an important win, which takes us 15 points clear of the relegation zone.

"It was a hard fought game at home, I thought we had the better of the key moments in the first half, without really testing their keeper too much.

"It's difficult at home on a hard sur-

face, it's hard to get the ball down and play quickly and a lot of credit needs to go to the players, they kept going, they kept pushing, they kept working.

"Jefferson Louis though came up with a good finish and we're obviously delighted with the three points, but enormous credit has to be given to the players for their effort, their work rate and their commitment.

"It's a very big win and a very important win for the club, so I'm really, really pleased."

The Hoops, 14th in the National League South table, travel to 12th placed East Thurrock United on Saturday and table toppers Maidenhead on Tuesday.



Slimbridge keeper Marcus Beauchamp had no chance from George Reid's freekick. Picture: Roger Neal

Railwaymen track down their first win of the year

Didcot Town

DIDCOT Town ended their 10 match winless streak by overcoming Slimbridge at Loop Meadow on Saturday.

George Reid's second half free kick and a late penalty save from Leigh Bedwell earned the Railway Men their first three points of 2017 – their first victory since Boxing Day.

In a game of two halves, the first 45 minutes was a dire affair with both sides having limited opportunities on goal.

Littered with sloppy passes and inaccurate finishing from both teams, Didcot just edged the first half with Marcus Beauchamp comfortably saving Ben Whitehead's long-range effort.

The second half sprung into life when Slimbridge's Edward Ward handled 25 yards from his own goal, four minutes in.

Up stepped Reid who unleashed a thunderbolt into the top left-hand

corner to give Didcot the lead.

It was a wake-up call the game needed.

Moments later, Reid could have doubled Didcot's lead when he was put through one-on-one with Beauchamp, but the goalkeeper did well to narrow the angle and block the shot.

Reid's miss could have proved costly as minutes later, the side from Gloucestershire were awarded a penalty when James Organ was adjudged to have brought down substitute Ryan Thwaite.

Slimbridge captain Lee Smith took the spot kick, but lacking any power and direction, Bedwell flung himself beyond the ball's trajectory and was able to smother it away with a trailing leg.

The victory lifts Didcot into 13th place in the table, whilst Slimbridge remain in 20th position, 14 points clear of the relegation zone.

Didcot's next fixture is away to Barnstaple on Saturday.

Winning streak comes to an end for Kiddy

Kidlington

KIDLINGTON'S four-match winning streak came to an end on Saturday when they drew 1-1 at home to Bedford Town.

Winning their last six games in the league, the hosts took the lead when Anaclet Odhiambo scored his 25th goal of the season in the 32nd minute but Bedford's Jamale McKenzie-Lowe equalised for the visitors two minutes after the restart to rescue a point.

In a thrilling game in which the hosts dominated play, Eric Odhiambo hit the crossbar with a curving shot before Mark Janes saw his effort brilliantly saved by visiting keeper Enol Ordóñez-Suárez just before the break.

Hoping for more of the same in the second half, Kiddy were sucker punched in the 47th minute when Bedford equalised through McKenzie-Lowe.

The Greens piled on the pressure to win the game, and thought it paid

off when Anaclet Odhiambo got his second of the match.

However, his goal was chalked off for offside.

Bedford upped their tempo as the second half progressed and Kidlington's defence had to be at their best to keep them at bay, but it finished 1-1.

The draw moves Kidlington into 10th place on 50 points, with their next fixture being away to Barton Rovers on Saturday.

Bedford remain in ninth position on 53 points.

Banbury edge closer to play-offs after victory

Banbury United

BANBURY United are now three points off the play-off places after defeating Chesham United 1-0 on Tuesday night at Spencer Stadium.

Callum White's strike 22 minutes from time gave The Puritans their fourth consecutive league win in what was a tightly contested battle.

Before the match, only one place and four points were separating the two sides in the table.

Banbury had the better for the majority of the first half and in the 16th minute, the hosts had a great chance to take the lead.

Tom Winters in-swinging right-sided corner was cleared but only back to the winger, who whipped in a

delicious ball that lead to a huge goal mouth scramble before Ricky Johnson shot over the bar from six yards.

Minutes later, Johnson put Zac McEachran through one-on-one with Richard Hayward in the opposition goal, but the goalkeeper was quick off his line to narrow the angle and deny the midfielder from scoring the opening goal.

Banbury continued to pile on the pressure and had another glorious chance to go 1-0 up, this time from Conor McDonagh, whose shot from the edge of the Chesham penalty area was deflected over the bar by Adam Martin.

The missed chances nearly came back to haunt Banbury as right on the stroke of half-time, Chesham's Dave Pearce's long range deflected

effort forced Jack Harding into a reflex save.

The resulting corner fell to Drew Roberts at the far post but his shot from 12 yards went just wide of the goal.

Banbury started the second half just like the first and finally got their goal in the 68th minute when right-back Callum White netted in from 12 yards on his weaker right foot, to give Banbury all three points.

They sit in sixth position, three points behind Merthyr Town in fifth, and their midweek victory comes off the back of defeating Cirencester Town on Saturday, 2-1.

The Puritans' next match is coincidentally against Chesham on Saturday, which was due to be played in January.

Winless run continues

North Leigh

NORTH Leigh are now winless in five matches after a 1-1 draw with Wimborne Town.

The Millers started the game in fine form having two good efforts in the opening five minutes.

Wayne Turk's curling effort went just wide and Jordan Lynn's low drive had Wimborne's 'keeper Gerald Benfield on his toes.

But to coincide with their rotten run at the moment, The Millers went behind moments later.

Luke Holmes ran into Leigh's penalty area and had his low shot saved by Manny Agboola, but the goalkeeper could only parry it to leading goal scorer Tobias Holmes, who smashed it into the centre of the goal from six yards out.

Two minutes later, Leigh had a glorious chance to equalise.

Captain Lance Williams chased a loose ball into Wimborne territory, ran into the penalty area and clipped a low cross in for George Seacole, whose ferocious effort across the

goal went out for a throw in.

The hosts continued to increase the tempo and put pressure on the Wimborne defence, which finally paid off six minutes before half-time.

Keeper Benfield rushed out of goal to collect an over-hit Leigh through ball, which Seacole decided to chase down.

After collecting the ball on the edge of the box, the goalkeeper inexplicably spilled it allowing the striker to redeem himself after his terrible miss, by tapping into the empty net from 12 yards.

The second half saw Leigh dominate the game but couldn't find that all-important winner.

Leigh, who also beat Oxford City 3-0 at Eynsham Park on Tuesday to reach the final of the Oxfordshire County Cup, now face a run of four away games, starting against table toppers Hereford on Saturday.

North Leigh next play at home on Saturday, April 1.

They move into 11th place on 50 points, one position and one point behind Wimborne, but do have four games in hand.

Chances aplenty but goalless draw for U's

OUFCW

NEW Oxford United Women's boss Andy Cook led his side to their first clean sheet of the Spring Series in his first home match in charge with a stalemate with Aston Villa Ladies on Sunday.

Neither side could find the back of the net, despite Villa starting the game on the front foot and Oxford dominating the rest of the match.

The new-look midfield diamond of Lauren Haynes, Ella Franklin-Fraiture, Emily Donovan and Taome Oliver kept hold of the ball well, ensuring Oxford were the more threatening side.

Despite the dominance, the U's failed to find a breakthrough, with their most threatening moment of the first half coming in the 37th minute when Franklin-Fraiture swung in a cross from the left wing that was met

by Oliver on the volley, but she could only fire the wrong side of the post.

The home side came out firing again in the second half, and it was Ini Umotong who was frustrated – not for the last time – when Aston Villa goalkeeper Claire Skinner kept her out with a brilliant save after some neat link up play with Oliver.

In a three-minute spell at the start of the second half Oxford won five corners in quick succession, the last of which resulted in Umotong flicking a header onto the bar.

The visitors found their feet on the hour, propelling multiple attacks towards the Oxford goal but found Demi Lambourne, who was having a quiet afternoon, in fine form to make two fantastic saves.

Chances were few and far between but Oxford could have snatched at the end when Umotong fizzed in a cross only for Skinner to tip away the danger as the lurking Oliver was ready to pounce.



The Burnham keeper is forced into a smart save

Good win, but could do better

Ardley United

ARDLEY United manager Paul Davis praised his side's first half performance in their 3-1 win at home to basement club Burnham but has warned his side to remain focused for the full 90 minutes in the remaining fixtures this season.

First half goals from strike duo Nathaniel Lewars and Leam Howards and a second half stoppage time goal from Jack Heap were enough to brush aside relegation threatened Burnham to get back to winning ways after back-to-back league defeats.

But Davis has criticised his team's second half performances in each of the last three games, a 2-1 defeat at Bracknell Town on March 8, a 5-0 win at home to Letcombe in the Supplementary Cup on Tuesday last week and Saturday's win.

There is no shame in losing to league leaders Bracknell Town but Davis labelled Ardley's second half performance as "slightly disappointing", in which they threw away their lead to leave empty handed.

Davis then accused United's players of being "too complacent" after taking their foot off the gas when

3-0 up against Hellenic Division One West outfit Letcombe. And once again, the Ardley performance was below par in the second half as they let Letcombe back in the contest just before the hour when Jesse Wilson saw his deflected shot wrong foot Nick Bennion to pull a goal back.

Following Saturday's proverbial game of two halves, Davis said: "In the first half I thought we were excellent, we created plenty of chances and I felt we got back to doing what we're good at, but we couldn't get that opening goal and their keeper made a few good saves.

"But then we scored two goals in quick succession and at half time I thought the second half would see us create more chances, score more goals and see out the game comfortably.

"But in the space of a week we've played three games and in the second period of each game we've been poor.

"We've had a chat after the game, I've asked the players why we've become complacent when we were leading at half time in all those three games, fortunately we only lost one of those games but we need to step up our game up."

Ardley travel to Ascot United on Saturday.

United make good on their promise

By George Welch

OXFORD United boss Michael Appleton promised U's fans they would bounce back on the road after back-to-back home defeats to Bristol Rovers and Sheffield United last week.

And that's exactly what they did.

After overcoming an initial 10-minute period of pressure from Peterborough United, Oxford comfortably ran out 2-1 winners to all but end the play-off ambitions of their hosts on Saturday.

United's grim home record reads as three successive defeats, but the rampant Yellows continued their striking away form, this time at the ABAX Stadium, or London Road as it is more commonly known.

The U's never looked back after they shook off the early pressure from the Posh and a goal in either half from on-loan right back Phil Edwards and forward Conor McAleny meant Appleton's side won their ninth match out of 11 on their travels.

And the well-travelled visitors, who are up to sixth in the League One away table, had a helping hand from their hapless hosts when youngster Leo Lopes received his marching orders with five minutes remaining when he picked up his second yellow card of the afternoon.

Appleton was left frustrated when Boro scored in stoppage time as Craig Mackail-Smith scored his 100th goal for the club, but the win also accomplishes Oxford's first target of the season – League One survival.

But things could have been differ-



Phil Edwards leaps for his goal against Peterborough on Saturday

Pictures: Darrell Fisher

ent if Grant McCann's front line were sharper in front of goal early on.

Simon Eastwood made his customary 'worldy' early with a flying save to keep a Lopes effort out after nine minutes.

Centre halves Curtis Nelson and Chey Dunkley also made two vital challenges to help Eastwood out in the first 15 minutes, laying the foundations for another battling defensive performance.

But then Oxford hit the front foot and took the lead on 23 minutes when

Edwards eluded the Posh defence to head home a Rob Hall corner.

And they doubled their advantage in the second half when McAleny tucked away a slick Chris Maguire pass with 19 minutes to go to score his fifth goal for the club since joining less than two months ago.

Lopes was sent off for the Posh 14 minutes later, but that didn't stop club legend Mackail-Smith netting his 100th goal for the hosts with a shot – or perhaps a cross – but it was nothing more than a late consolation.

Still time to buy trophy final tickets

NEARLY 25,000 tickets have been sold for Oxford United's trip to Wembley in the Checkatrade Trophy final next month.



The U's will face fellow League One club Coventry City at Wembley a year on from losing to Barnsley in the final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final, on April 2.

Tickets flew past the 20,000 mark after an astonishing first day on general sale on Friday.

Tickets are available at tinyurl.com/juxh4qf and by phone at 0844 453 9015 until close of business on Wednesday, March 29.

Fans can buy up to nine tickets.

	SkyBet League 1	GP	GD	PTS
1	Sheffield United	37	29	75
2	Fleetwood Town	37	19	67
3	Bolton Wanderers	36	23	66
4	Scunthorpe United	38	21	64
5	Bradford City	38	15	63
6	Millwall	35	9	58
7	Southend United	37	10	57
8	Bristol Rovers	38	-1	54
9	Walsall	38	-1	53
10	Oxford United	36	6	52
11	Peterborough United	38	0	51
12	AFC Wimbledon	37	3	50
13	Rochdale	35	1	50
14	Northampton Town	38	-5	49
15	Charlton Athletic	38	4	47
16	Gillingham	38	-13	45
17	MK Dons	37	-2	44
18	Bury	38	-7	44
19	Shrewsbury Town	37	-11	43
20	Oldham Athletic	38	-12	43
21	Port Vale	35	-17	38
22	Swindon Town	38	-18	36
23	Chesterfield	38	-25	33
24	Coventry	37	-28	26

Guardian Sport

Oldham keeper Connor Ripley brings down Chris Maguire to give a penalty to the U's, which Maguire then converted
Picture: Darrell Fisher

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Away run comes to an end

By George Welch

OXFORD United's superb five match winning streak away from home was brought to an end in a 2-1 defeat at struggling Oldham Athletic on Tuesday night.

The play-off chasing U's last suffered a league defeat on the road at AFC Wimbledon in January but were beaten by a double from Oldham striker Lee Erwin.

United's Chris Maguire scored his first league goal since December 17 but his penalty on the hour was sandwiched by Erwin goals in both halves to leave the U's trailing the League One play-offs by six points.

The lowly Latics, who have improved since January under new boss John Sheridan, raced out of the blocks and could have snatched an early lead.

They should have scored within

two minutes when Aaron Amadi-Holloway fired too close to goalkeeper Simon Eastwood before Chris Taylor thrashed a volley wide in the seventh minute.

Eastwood had to be at his best again to get down smartly and gather a Ryan McLaughlin drive at the quarter hour mark.

Oxford responded through Conor McAleny, whose shot was parried by Oldham keeper Connor Ripley, before striker Kane Hemmings – now goalless in seven – somehow missed a guilt-edged chance from point-blank range.

The hosts eventually made their early pressure count when on loan Leeds United striker Erwin nodded in a rebound from four yards nine minutes before the break.

United replied on the hour mark as Maguire calmly slotted home from the

penalty spot after he had been brought down by Ripley.

However, Erwin settled the match with his seventh goal of the season on 70 minutes when he met a McLaughlin cross to head home the three points at the back post.

United cranked up the pressure on the Oldham defence as they hunted an equaliser but the Latics were content to soak up the Yellows' attack.

Maguire saw a free kick deflected wide and a curling effort from McAleny tested Ripley as there was plenty of late drama but no late goal for U's.

The last five minutes became a siege in the Oldham area with the home side happy to smash the ball as far away from danger as possible.

Oxford will host promotion hopefuls Scunthorpe United and Bolton Wanderers on Saturday and Tuesday respectively.



Tower Hill Vixens in red & blue made it through to the quarter finals
Pictures: The FA

Vixens come up short in cup run

A SURPRISE visit from Arsenal Ladies legend Alex Scott still wasn't enough to stop Tower Hill U13 Vixens from crashing out of the 2017 FA People's Cup.

The five-a-side football team managed to get to the quarterfinal stage of the competition, but lost three of their four matches in Reading, resulting in their elimination.

Facing tough opposition, the girls took on Oxford City U14s and Thatcham U14s who are both top of their respective leagues in their group, where they finished bottom with just one point.

Playing each team twice, Witney-based Tower Hill lost 6-1 and 5-2 to City before going down 5-1 to Thatcham.

Their only point in the quarter finals was against the West Berkshire side, where it finished 3-3.

Manager Paul Riley said: "I decided to enter the FA People's Cup because it looked great fun."

"I thought the team would do well following the success they had by winning the Oxfordshire FA U14 futsal tournament this year and representing Oxfordshire FA in the regional futsal finals."

"The confidence the team gained



from this, particularly beating older teams, made me think they would relish the experience of playing in the FA People's Cup."

Isabella Riley, who plays for Tower Hill, said: "The players remember the advice from Alex Scott and we got stronger throughout the competition."

Teammate Sophie Harris added: "It was great meeting Alex Scott and this experience has made me more determined to become a professional footballer."

The semi-finals will take place from March 24 to March 26 with the finals on April 30 and May 1.

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